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THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IRISH ULTRAMONTANES.

THE debate of Wednesday last on Mr. Fawcett's Bill was another sign of the want of harmony existing between Mr. Gladstone and the majority of his supporters on politico-ecclesiastical matters, and of the worse than folly of ambiguous, we might almost say delusive, statements of Ministerial policy. On that occasion the hon. member for Brighton moved the second reading of a measure which embodied the scheme for throwing open Trinity College, Dublin, as a national University, shadowed forth at the close of last Session. Both then and now the suggested reform has been met by the plea that it is a question which should be settled by the Government, who would, in due time, take it in hand. This argument is natural enough, if not irresistible; but we see no valid reasons, compatible with the understood ecclesiastical policy of Her Majesty's Ministers, why they should refrain from indicating the principle on which they will undertake the settlement of the University question in Ireland. Nor can we see that they have gained any moral triumph by talking out a motion which, if it had been carried to a division, would have found not only the Liberal party, but an overwhelming majority of the House of Commons, in favour of genuine religious equality as applied to University education.

The plan brought forward by Mr. Fawcett receives the cordial and unreserved support of the authorities of Trinity College. Though by no means complete or perfect, it is a far more sweeping reform of that University than has been sanctioned by Parliament in the case of Oxford and Cambridge. Not only are all religious tests abolished, but clerical fellowships are done away with, and the Provost and Senior Fellows of Trinity College have consented to such a reconstruction of the governing body as will admit the elected representatives of the Junior Fellows, Professors, and Graduates, of the University. The Roman Catholics would thus, in the course of a few years, obtain representation in the management of the institution proportionate to their numbers and status. This liberal offer the Irish Romanist Hierarchy, professing to speak on behalf of Irish Roman Catholics, resolutely decline to accept. They want an exclusive Catholic University supported by State funds—or rather by the appropriation of part of the revenues of Trinity College. This claim is confidently put forward, notwithstanding that Catholic youths show a decided repugnance to enter the Catholic University already in existence, and that the seminary of Maynooth, in which the Catholic clergy are educated, is amply endowed with national funds.

It appears from Mr. Gladstone's speech last Wednesday that he is unfavourable to the scheme of endowing a purely denominational University. But he says that Roman Catholics have a grievance so long as University degrees are not conferred in Ireland without regard to religious opinions—which Mr. Fawcett's bill proposes to remedy. He also states, without endorsing the complaint, that a large body of Roman Catholics are unwilling to send their children to institutions where their own exclusive religious opinions are not taught; but he does *not* say that as large a proportion as thirty per cent. of the students in Trinity College at the present moment are Roman Catholics. The question is not, however, what interpretation the Ultramontane Catholics put upon the phrase, "religious equality," but whether the Government accept their view. Liberals might be ready, perhaps, to acquiesce in a scheme of academic education in Ireland based upon that of the London University — that is, a purely neutral University with any number of colleges, sectarian and otherwise, affiliated to it. Consequently the whole controversy is, in effect, narrowed down to this—whether it is just or expedient for the Imperial Government to create in Ireland an exclusive Roman Catholic College, supported by public funds.

Mr. Gladstone, in 1868, declared that educational grants for the exclusive advantage and enjoyment of a single sect should not be charged upon the Consolidated Fund, or any portion of the Imperial revenues. The abolition of the Irish State Church, the Regium Donum, and the Maynooth grant, put all Her Majesty's Irish subjects on an equal footing. The Irish Church Act was a genuine measure of "religious equality." But now to endow a Catholic College, from whatever public source the revenues might come, would be to resuscitate the principle of religious favouritism. As the *Times* remarks, "Mr. Gladstone claims for the Irish Catholics much more than he has ever claimed for the English Nonconformists—Protestant or Catholic."

As a measure of expediency the scheme of a State-endowed Catholic college—of which it was thought up to Friday last Mr. Gladstone was an advocate—would be disastrous to the interests of liberal education, free thought, and religious liberty. From the statesman's point of view this is not an ecclesiastical but a lay question. He may legitimately demand that Trinity College should be secularised far more quickly and effectually than is provided by Mr. Fawcett's bill. But why is he to be called upon in the name, forsooth, of religious equality, to bow to the pretensions of an Ultramontane Hierarchy on the subject of education? He might fairly claim that the Imperial Government had severed itself from all religious bodies in Ireland, and that if a college for the exclusive academic education of Roman Catholics was thought to be necessary, Maynooth could be adapted for that purpose, or another Ultamontane college set up, quite apart from the State. Surely no Liberal need to go out of his way to rivet upon the laity of Ireland the chains of an ecclesiastical despotism which avowedly aims at enslaving the human mind, and the claims of which are absolutely incompatible with civilisation and freedom! The Liberal party want no Concordat with Cardinal Cullen for the purpose of securing the votes of the Brigade whom he is supposed to influence; and Mr. Gladstone is quite strong enough to do without such an exacting ally.

We are rejoiced to find that the Prime Minister has been misunderstood. Nothing that he has said on or before Wednesday would suggest that he was averse to the endowment of a purely Catholic College. The complaints of Mr. Plunket and Mr. Vernon Harcourt as to his ambiguity were, therefore, perfectly natural. On Friday, however, in reply to Mr. Whalley, the right hon. gentleman entirely disclaimed any such policy. In the first place, he repudiated any intention of settling the question of University education without the sanction of Parliament, and in the second, declared that the subject of the endowment of a Roman Catholic College in Ireland had never, as far as he was aware, been brought before the Government in any shape, and that no such intention had ever been entertained. This is explicit and satisfactory, and we must set down previous misunderstanding on the subject to the Premier's too sensitive anxiety not prematurely to disclose his plans.

The future of Ireland is, we believe, to no small extent bound up with an equitable settlement of the education question. The Irish bishops are perfectly free to teach what they please in their own seminaries, even to the extent of the Infallibility dogma and the Syllabus. Unfortunately, they are never content unless this can be done at other people's expense. And every fresh boon conceded to them is only the point of departure for fresh demands. It is folly to shut our eyes to the fact that they have alternately intrigued and threatened in order to wrest the national system of education to their own priestly purposes. They want to do—what no Catholic country in the world except Belgium will allow to be done—viz., to have the control of University education, and this in order that they more effectually lay hold of primary education. Every great European State is resisting their demands; albeit they are enforced by a compact organisation and spiritual terrors.

The course of the Government is now comparatively easy. The Premier's supplementary declaration has saved him from the fate predicted by Mr. Harcourt. He will no doubt be denounced by the organs of the Irish Catholic Hierarchy, but he will be sustained by Conservatives—except, perhaps, those of High-Church tendencies—as well as by Liberals, in his refusal to plant anew in Ireland the germs of ecclesiastical favouritism and discord.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

WE have from time to time remarked upon the spasmodic efforts of zealous partisans to galvanise a defensive Church agitation. Lately, in view of the opening of the disestablishment campaign, the Church Institution was transformed into the Church Defence Institution; and it is now announced with some parade by the *John Bull* that the renovated organisation "is constantly receiving fresh accessions of strength, both from the Episcopate and

other influential quarters." Five bishops and a number of M.P.'s have joined the Executive Committee, and already a fund of about 250*l.* has been subscribed. This is rather a modest sum to carry on a vigorous agitation in defence of what our contemporary describes as "the recognition of national Christianity in England"; but possibly, contrary to all previous experience, the new movement will not only arouse but unite Churchmen—the one being quite as difficult as the other. The question whether High Church or Low Church shall direct it, will inevitably in due time crop up. No less a difficulty is the apparent lack of sufficient zeal to supply the requisite sinews of war. The names even of the Bishops of Winchester, St. David's, Ely, Gloucester and Bristol, Lincoln, and Carlisle, will not go far reassure State-Churchmen, or to infuse vigour into their defensive operations. We should, however, feel no trepidation if the plans of the Church defenders were ten times as formidable as they appear to be—having the strongest conviction that the Establishment cannot stand the brunt of a really national controversy. If, however, the "dignified" members of the Church Defence Institution can keep this counter-agitation within the bounds of moderation, and discountenance all bitterness and personality, they will do some real service.

The ultimate object on both sides is to win over public opinion, we hope by fair argument and means; and it may be confidently expected that the Liberation Society will not be wanting in the new and higher position of the movement they direct. Their plan of operations for the coming season is substantially matured, and is briefly sketched in this month's *Liberator*. It is proposed to hold early in the autumn a series of district conferences, "at which the society's proposed operations will be fully explained, and questions relating to organisation and to practical work can be fully discussed." This is exclusive of any large public meetings which it may be desirable to hold, or of lectures to be given. Something effectual will, we doubt not, be done by means of the press, and as we announced last week, the Executive Committee propose to collect through their correspondents such a body of facts as will illustrate the working of the Establishment in rural parishes. Sir Roundell Palmer's Arcadian picture will thus be tested by actual fact. Before these results are made public, we hope to lay before our readers a careful and impartial analysis of the Blue-books bearing on the subject, which will show how far the conclusions of "An English Clergyman," whose excellent papers we are publishing, are borne out. Enlarged work will require increased resources, and the Liberation Committee modestly suggest that their funds shall be increased from 5,000*l.* to 7,000*l.* during the next year—

To obtain the additional 2,000*l.* the committee look to (1) new annual subscriptions from many sympathising but non-subscribing friends; (2) increased subscriptions from many subscribers who now give only small sums, with the belief that more is not needed; and (3) donations, to be paid either in one sum or in two annual payments.

There should be no difficulty in carrying out such a scheme, which is none the worse because it is not large or imposing. It affords an opportunity for nearly all the society's friends to do something, and, as we believe that the society never stood so high in the estimation of those who desire the accomplishment of its objects, we hope that appreciation will show itself in a practical and appropriate form. We believe that hitherto the impression has prevailed that the society did not want more money, and to a certain extent that was true; but it is not in any sense true now. Without more money, the great work now going on so successfully will be crippled, and great opportunities will be lost.

The additional 2,000*l.* required would be quickly raised if present subscribers of ten shillings and under would spontaneously double these contribution. This would be the most practical reply to the challenge of the Church Defence Institution.

Many, perhaps most of our readers, will be surprised to learn that there is such a thing as a "Free Church of England." Its main object we are told is—

To introduce the Gospel of Christ into those parishes in which the clergy, by excessive Ritualism and departure from the faith, are leading the people to Rome, and to assert the right of the laity in all matters affecting the agency and the work of the Church, especially where the laity are suffering either from an undue or arbitrary authority of the clergy.

From a copy of the annual report which has been sent to us, we learn that churches in connection with the "Free Church of England" have been opened in Alston College, Atherton, Avebury, Buxton, Exeter, Hollinwood, Ilfracombe, Ledbury, Liverpool, Kilburn, Sydenham, Teddington, Lynmouth, New Malden, Oswaldtwistle, Ruthin, Tottington, Ulverston, and Wheelton, and that Free Church of England services are conducted in the following places of worship (belonging to the Countess of Huntingdon's Trusts)—Brighton, Cheltenham, London, Norwich, Tunbridge Wells, and Worcester. This new organisation is not like that of the Countess of Huntingdon's, strictly Episcopal—its constitution being described as "neither Episcopal, Presbyterian, nor Congregational, but a fusion of all of them." Though under such a system there can be no room for an orthodox consecrated bishop, the minister of Spa-fields Chapel is spoken of as "the President-Bishop"! We are not informed of the number of members comprised in the score of churches of which this new ecclesiastical body consists, or what proportion of them are seceding Churchmen. But it is unquestionably true, as the Rev. Newman Hall says, that "there are multitudes who are uneasy in the Church of England, as now administered, for whom Dissent, in any of its generally recognised forms, is too great a leap." But whether the "Free Church of England" will become, as Mr. Hall devoutly hopes, "a body of Christians, possessing those eminent advantages which characterise the Episcopal Church, and yet divested of those deformities, and in no degree responsible for those anti-Christian practices which are so great an obstacle to the usefulness of the Establishment," time only will show. The "council" of the new Church has revised the Thirty-Nine articles and the Catechism in an anti-High Church sense, and their proceedings are duly reported in their own monthly magazine.

We have commented elsewhere upon the Irish education question. One of the most interesting questions that arose during the debate was the extent to which the Catholics of Ireland embrace the Ultramontane views on education put forward by the Irish prelates. Mr. Fawcett claimed that his bill, drawn by an Irish Catholic, satisfied the moderate members of that communion as a measure of complete justice. He had received, he said, letters from Catholics in all parts of Ireland expressing the same opinion, one of them being from a Catholic gentleman whose academical career had been most distinguished, "stating that if this bill were passed, no Catholic could demand anything more with regard to University education in Ireland." In a similar spirit writes Mr. J. Lowry Whittle, a Catholic and a Trinity College man, to the *Pall Mall Gazette*. He says:—

I do not believe the great bulk of the Irish people ever have disliked Trinity College; they always respected it, and many of them loved it; and just because they regarded it with these feelings they considered it a grievance to be excluded from its highest honours. Animosity towards it no section of Irish society ever entertained, notwithstanding the indefatigable energy with which, of late years, the promoters of the Catholic University strove to generate such a spirit. Much less are they likely to become hostile under the new system. The use Catholics make of the college, the increase in their numbers within the last few years, the frank declaration of Mr. Heron that his project of a Catholic University would become impossible if Mr. Fawcett's bill were passed, are facts more conclusive than any vague allegations of hostility. Further proof of what I urge might be found in the scant attendance of Irish members on Wednesday last and the faltering demeanour of many who ordinarily act with the Ultramontane party. The people who dwell with such horror on the antagonism of Roman Catholic and Protestant in Trinity College are those who, like Mr. Pim, have no personal experience of the college. It is just because Mr. Pim's picture of Irish society outside Trinity College is so true, that the operation of that college becomes of such value. Mr. Dowse, while assailing the bill, admitted honestly the healthy influence which the college had always exercised upon sectarian feeling. . . . Mr. Fawcett has learned to distinguish amid the Catholic crowd the Ultramontane, the political Catholic, the ready tool of the Ultramontane, the simple people who follow the lead of authority they know not whither, and the thinking educated Catholics. He has studied the phases of Catholic opinion, and understands that neither the people nor the lower clergy are Ultramontane in Ireland. Nor has he generalised hastily either about Irish Protestantism. He has not been carried away by the odium attaching to that term among his party and before the English public. He has recognised in Trinity College a centre of just thought and a home of the scientific spirit. He sees that Trinity College is Irish and respected by Irishmen, and that it possesses and generates that element of sanity which it must be the aim of English statesmanship to naturalise in Ireland.

It is refreshing to find some of the Church supporters of education complaining of the Department in Whitehall. "A School Manager," who must have queer ideas of the objects of education, complains in the *Guardian* that the most recent minutes require two hours of consecutive secular teaching both morning and evening. There will be *only* forty minutes left in the morning, and none, practically, in the afternoon, for religious instruction—which means, we suppose, cramming the poor children with the Church Catechism. The writer seems to forget that the Department, under the new Act, has only to take cognisance of secular instruction; and, as there will be no payments for religious education, it will not be to the interest of teachers to give it undue prominence. This will be a great check upon zealous Churchmen who desire to make the national schools seminaries for teaching little children denominational dogmas.

The schism in the Catholic Church throughout Germany, it will be seen, is growing wider. What is now called the Old Catholic party, with Dr. Dollinger at their head, is constantly receiving new adhesions. "Austria, Bavaria—where the dissolution of the Chamber and a new election will soon give the finishing stroke—and now Prussia, too," says a sanguine Berlin correspondent, "are lost for ever to the Holy See." At Wurzburg and Bonn, as well as at Munich, opponents of the Infallible dogma have been elected rectors. The Catholic prelates threaten a Papal anathema, and the Prussian Government, on their side, talk of meeting the interference of the Archbishop of Cologne by closing the theological faculty of Bonn University altogether. In Bavaria, it is said, the new Ministers have come to see that the only way out of their ecclesiastical difficulties is a strict separation of Church and State—a very sensible conclusion. Meanwhile, the infatuated adherents of the Papacy in Italy have, at this juncture, put forth a proposal for a universal subscription with a view to present the Pope with a throne of gold, as a memento of the gratitude of the faithful for the benefits which Pius IX. has conferred upon the world during the twenty-five years of his pontificate!

AN ENGLISH CLERGYMAN'S HOLIDAY THOUGHTS ON ESTABLISHED CHURCHES.

V.—SOCIAL AND POLITICAL EVILS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT.

If the religious influence of an Established Church has been nothing commensurate with her position, what shall we say of the social aspect of the Establishment question? I take it that anything which tends to create, foster, or perpetuate social divisions in a country is, *primâ facie* at any rate, a thing to be condemned. At least, a strong case of countervailing advantages would have to be made out, if the thing were to be held as justifiable.

Now, there can be no doubt that the existence of an Established Church, such as we have in England, has created, and does perpetuate, much social division, and a social division which is embittered by the very fact of its being connected with the name of religion. The Nonconformist is often looked on as one of an inferior caste. I know that in large cities, by the very force of their character and the power of their numbers, Nonconformists have been able, in great measure, to counteract this religious *snobbishness;* but it still exists to a frightful extent, and especially in our country districts. I heard a fellow-clergyman of the English Church once say that one great reason why Dissenting clergymen disliked the Establishment was because they objected to their own inferior social position. Well, and a very good reason, amongst many higher ones, for their dislike. What excuse, worthy of a Christian man, can be given, why any person should be excluded from even the highest society on account of his religious opinions? Besides, Nonconformists must feel that the *élite* of their clergy are quite able now to stand on equal terms as regards learning and acquirements with the clergy of the Established Church. It is not necessary for me to mention names, but surely no person acquainted with ecclesiastical literature can be ignorant that the different Nonconformist bodies could now place upon a platform men who would grace it with an equal weight of learning and theological knowledge as any whom the Established Church could place there. Nonconformity has its representatives in the Legislature, in the Ministry, in the public offices of the kingdom. Ask the House of Commons, ask Mr. Gladstone, ask the head of our public departments, whether they find Nonconformists less loyal, less able, less diligent than their fellows of the Establishment? And yet by the very fact and form of your Established Church, you place these Nonconformist citizens in an inferior position to that which is occupied by their more favoured brothers of the Establishment, so that the poorest little curate who as just struggled through his scanty B.A. examination—if he has even done that—lifts up his head as though he were something greater than his non-established brother. This is an evil, a sore in the body politic—a sore because it promotes division where, on every principle of political science, there should be all possible unity as between citizen and citizen of one common country. Do not tell me that this is a mere sentimental grievance. That was said, too, concerning the Irish Church. I answer, that if it be a merely sentimental grievance

—though I do not grant this—a sentimental grievance is often the heaviest grievance which a man has; for it is that which touches not the lower arguments of his breeches pocket or his physical comforts, but the nicest and finest feelings of his soul. And whilst engaged on this point, I cannot forbear saying how much I was struck with Mr. Miall's remark in his speech on disestablishment, when he drew attention to the state of the social atmosphere throughout Europe, warning us that institutions such as our Established Church have a tendency to attract social storms, just as lofty buildings draw the lightning towards them. There was, I think, real political wisdom and forethought in the warning. Men who see these favoured bodies standing forth strong in wealth and influence feel the injustice of them, and so the storm gathers round them. He therefore is the wisest statesmen who, when men's minds are troubled, and who when great crises occur in the history of a nation, has allowed the fewest weak points to remain, the fewest vantage grounds whence the enemies of order and civilisation may direct their attack.

I have disposed of the religious and social aspects of the Establishment question, what then of its political aspect? Of course I have already treated of that aspect, if we take the word "political" in its broader and truer sense, for the social state of a country depends on its good political Government. The direction of the State embraces the social question, but the point to which I wish to draw attention is a narrower point—I wish to inquire what has been the influence upon the political parties of England, which the Established Church has exercised during the last hundred years? What influence has she brought to bear upon them? I answer, and answer fearlessly, that she has been the ally of all those who have opposed progress, the bitter opponent of all who have espoused the cause of progress. She has never been foremost in any great movement for the amelioration of the people's lot. Every single measure of advance the clergy have as a body withstood at the polling-booths. The repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts and Catholic Emancipation, the extension of the suffrage, free trade, the disestablishment of the Irish Church, the admission of Nonconformists to the national universities—all these measures we shall find, if we consult the polling books, were one and all opposed, and opposed bitterly, by the clergy of the Established Church. Of course there have been exceptions, but they have been few and far between, like the visits of heavenly messengers to earth. I conclude, then, that neither if considered as a religious question, nor if considered as a social question, nor if considered as a political question, can the existence of an Established Church be defended.

THE METHODIST ASSEMBLIES.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.

At the meeting of the Conference at Manchester on Thursday, the Rev. Allen Rees, the Rev. T. B. Jeffries, the Rev. T. L. Taylor, and Gregory Renton, were received as preachers on trial. The Rev. Dr. Rigg again brought forward resolutions upon the proposed extension of the Normal College, Westminster. The resolution before the Conference was proposed on Tuesday evening by the Rev. W. Shaw, and seconded by Dr. Osborne:—

That the Conference having considered the proposal of the General Education Committee in reference to a second training college at Battersea for female students, adopts the same and approves the appointment of the Rev. G. W. Olver, B.A., as its principal.

Dr. Rigg detailed the steps which had been taken to secure a suitable property at Southlands, Battersea, for the new institution, containing a mansion and three acres of land, for 4,000*l.*, and read the resolutions of the General Education Committee, which had been passed with a view to provide for the training of Wesleyan candidates for day-school teachers. They were unable to meet the present wants, and unless the provision was made, they should have to close the doors against from 100 to 150 candidates every year. The Rev. Dr. Waddy complained that a final purchase had been made before the Conference met. The Rev. W. Arthur, A.M., held that the secular element in education was national, and the denominational was Romish. The Romanists had their own way, and they had helped to it. It was no use looking back, and he was convinced that the demand would be made for the best teachers, and they would do well to train as many as they could. Without vindicating the steps which had been taken, he was in favour of the resolution to provide an additional training institution. The Rev. S. R. Hall proposed that the resolution should be passed, leaving the details to a committee to meet during the Conference. The Rev. Alex. M'Aulay seconded the resolution as thus amended, and after some further discussion it was passed. The Conference then resumed the question as to circuit arrangements. A discussion then arose as to where the President should reside, he having engaged himself to the Liverpool (Pitt-street) circuit. By a large majority it was resolved that he be appointed, for the convenience of the connexion, to a London circuit.

At the meeting of the Conference on Friday morning, the ex-President stated that Dr. Jobson had been attacked with a serious illness, which would prevent his attendance for some days, and the Rev. J. Woolmer was appointed a substitute on the Stationing Committee. The reports of several committees having been presented and adopted, it was agreed that the Rev. Wm. Arthur, A.M., should remain for the ensuing year on the books as secretary for foreign missions. His health was not such as to enable him to take a circuit, and the order was made at his own request. A memorial from the Executive Council of the United Kingdom Alliance, signed by Sir Walter C. Trevelyan, Bart., was presented, praying the Conference to memorialise Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the liquor traffic. The Conference resolved to reaffirm its resolution of last year, and that a copy of that resolution be sent to the Secretary of State for the Home Department. The business of the Sabbath Committee was then proceeded with. The Rev. Joseph Bush addressed the Conference at some length on the importance of conducting Sunday-school anniversaries properly, and of securing the attendance of teachers and scholars at the Sunday evening services. The report of the Wesleyan College at Taunton was read by the governor, the Rev. W. P. Slater, and was very satisfactory, both financially and religiously. The Rev. H. H. Chettle presented the report of the Worn-out Ministers and Widows' Fund, and made an appeal for increased subscriptions, in order that the meagre allowances from the fund may be augmented. The Rev. H. J. Pope presented the report of the Scottish Relief and Extension Fund, which was adopted. The members of committee for next year were appointed. The Rev. James Chalmers, M.A., read the address to the French Conference; after which the Rev. E. Cook, of Paris, addressed the Conference on the state of Methodism in Paris, and asked for some assistance towards the reduction of chapel debts in France. The Conference was disposed to help liberally in this matter, but the special form in which help should be given was reserved for the consideration of the Conference when the Stationing Committee should return. The Rev. W. Arthur stated that he held in his hand a review of the life of John Wesley, published in France, taken from the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. It was from the pen of M. de Rémusat, who was that day gazetted Minister for Foreign Affairs in France, and who had not only given leave to the Bookroom to republish it, but had furnished a new introduction. In the evening a meeting was held in the Grosvenor-street Wesleyan Chapel, in support of the Children's Home, which is the only orphanage and refuge under Methodist auspices in Great Britain. The chair was taken by Mr. Richard Haworth.

On Saturday morning the reply of Mr. Gladstone to the memorial of the Conference asking for the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Acts, was read. It acknowledged the reception of the memorial, and promised that the Government would consider the question. It was reported by the committee appointed that it was not thought expedient that the two principals should also act as joint secretaries of the Education Department, but that another minister be appointed to the office, and that the Rev. G. O. Bate be that minister. The report was adopted. After the members of the Stationing Committee had retired, the Pastoral Address was read by the Rev. R. N. Young, and adopted by the Conference. The report on the condition of the societies was read by the Rev. A. M'Aulay. It stated that the net decrease in the year was 1,381. Total number in the society, 347,090; on trial, 18,126; deaths, 5,800. The Pastoral Address to the societies was read by the Rev. R. N. Young, and adopted. The Rev. H. W. Holland presented the report of the committee appointed last Conference to consider the propriety of establishing a society for the insurance of Connexional property. The establishment of such a society was recommended. The Guarantee Fund already amounts to the sum of 10,920*l.*, and it is expected that the society will be able to begin business at the end of the year. The Children's Fund report was read by Dr. Waddy. A committee was appointed to meet before the next September financial district meetings, to consider the best way of readjusting the relations between the Children's and Schools Fund.

Mr. Fernley, of Southport, has presented Trinity Hall, in that town, as a school for the daughters of Wesleyan ministers. The money value of this gift is about 6,000*l.*

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES.

At the meeting of the Assembly on Thursday in London, an address to the churches was read by the Rev. W. O. Lilley, which made reference to the fact that there was a small connexional decrease, and gave some reasons for such decrease. To this several members of the Assembly objected, and suggested that the societies should be brought face to face with the decrease, that it might lead the members to humiliation and prayer. The tabular statement was read by Rev. R. Bushell, and showed that the total number of members was 67,648 against 68,167 last year, thus showing a decrease of 519, but in consequence of error made in the returns of last year to the extent of 171, the actual decrease was brought down to 348. There are 315 ministers in the body, an increase of 12; supernumeraries 19, increase 3; local preachers, 3,410, decrease 48; leaders, 4,370, decrease 31; members on trial, 5,053, decrease 1,221; removals, 4,257, decrease 542; withdrawals, 3,506; increase, 319; deaths, 1,082. Dec. 18:—Chapels 1,272, increase 23; preaching rooms 278, decrease 31; chapels built during the year 32; chapels enlarged 11; Sunday-schools 1,203; scholars 157,725, increase 3,545; Sunday-school teachers 24,051; day-schools 84, increase 5; day scholars 8,918, increase 1,596; day teachers 151, increase 28; increase of members by amalgamation 142. The Missionary Committee was nominated, and the following gentlemen were elected:—W. Hicks, Liskeard, 82 votes; John Adcock, Bradford, 92; S. Macfarlane, Liverpool, 75; T. Cuthbertson, London, 89; S. S. Barton, Manchester, 118; G. Luckley, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 81; W. Reed, Sunderland, 67; W. H. C. Hardy, Holt, 73; T. Watson, Rochdale, 80.

On Friday a resolution condemning the Contagious Diseases Act was moved by the Rev. T. Hacking, seconded by the Rev. W. Griffiths, and passed unanimously. The Rev. A. Hands, secretary to the Preachers' Superannuation and Beneficent Fund, reported that the capital fund amounts to nearly 16,000*l.*, the contributions received from circuits during the year amounted to 444*l.*, annuities paid during the year 330*l.*, for furniture 110*l.*, grants for affliction 200*l.* The list of stations for the coming year was read a third time and confirmed; two or three circuits that had asked for additional preachers being referred to the committee for early settlement. The list for the London district is as follows:—George Fysh, Robert Trotter, and one to be sent; Ira Miller, supernumerary; Thomas Hacking, Edward O. Perry, J. Swann Withington (connexional secretary), George O. Lund, Thomas Barlow, book steward; Thomas Newton, W. John Humberstone, William Embleton, Alfred Jones, Henry M. Booth, Jabez King. Croydon.—John Fish. Oxford.—William H. Bond. Rochester—Thomas Aspinall. West Cowes.—Christopher Bentley. Woodford—William Burnett. Twenty-three or twenty-four ministers are still wanted for mission stations and other places requiring additional ministerial labour, which the Connexional Committee will be anxious, as far as possible, to supply. A resolution passed two years ago, by which the salaries of ministers labouring in circuits assisted out of the connexional funds were reduced to the minimum of 80*l.*, was rescinded, amid loud cheers. The minimum is now 90*l.* The Rev. W. Griffiths, who, after eleven years' service in Jamaica, is now on a visit to England, was requested to address the assembly on the state of the mission, and he described in a very interesting manner the state of the churches in that island. A resolution heartily welcoming Mr. Griffiths to England, and praying for the Divine blessing to rest upon him and his family, both during his stay in England and on his return to Jamaica, was passed unanimously—the assembly rising. The Rev. A. Holliday, secretary *pro. tem.* to the chapel loan and chapel relief funds, read the reports of those funds. The income of the chapel relief fund is some 3*l.* less than last year. Conditional grants had been made to the extent of 1,000*l.* During the year chapel debts have been reduced to the extent of 11,317*l.*; towards new chapels 19,061*l.* have been raised, leaving debts on these new erections of 22,574*l.* The sum of 2,237*l.* has been raised towards the erection of separate buildings used as Sunday-schools, the debt on these being 2,515*l.* The increased value of chapel property compared with last year is 35,900*l.* Mr. J. W. Petty read a reply to the various temperance memorials. It expressed generally the feeling of the connexion towards the liquor-traffic and the drinking customs of the day. After one or two slight alterations, the resolutions of the committee were confirmed.

CATHOLIC SCHISM IN GERMANY.

The Berlin journals announce that the Prussian Government has warned the Archbishop of Cologne against persisting to interfere in the University teaching at Bonn, under the threat of closing the theological faculty altogether.

With respect to Dr. Döllinger's election to the rectorship of the University of Munich, the clerical journals threaten the entire University with a Papal anathema. At Wurzburg (Bavaria) the theological faculty have elected the anti-Infallibilist, Professor Reissmann, rector, by a large majority, over the Ultramontane candidate. At Bonn, also, the Infallibilist candidate has been defeated.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Daily News* thus writes:—"It is all over with whatever has existed of friendship, or at least of peace and goodwill, between the Church of Rome and the Prussian Government. The last few days, quiet and cheerful as was their look here, have brought, as the Germans say, the bottom out of the tub. Hitherto Prussia, since the days of King Frederick William the Fourth, of mediæval and romantic memory, has been a real Paradise for the Catholic priesthood; more so than almost any Catholic country. The Church of Rome, though subventioned by the State even to a larger extent, in proportion to the number of its followers, than the established 'United Protestant' Church, has been free to do what it liked. In the Ministry for Public Worship and National Education, King Frederick William the Fourth, in sudden and violent rupture with his

father's cherished project of letting a new Christian Church, with tenets adapted to the knowledge and mental culture of our era, issue from a gradual blending of different denominations, established, in 1841, two separate departments, one to supply the necessities of the Catholic Church, the other those of the Protestant majority of the people. The management of the Catholic department has ever since been entrusted to councillors favourable to the Church of Rome, and in whom it could place reliance. The department has just been dissolved. Its last head, Councillor Kraetzig, has altogether been dismissed from the service of the State, and has been placed on such allowance as the law provides in similar cases. Henceforward there is to be but one department as before 1841. The step taken is as significant and as serious as can well be imagined. Its consequences will soon be felt. Now let me explain what was the cause which immediately brought it about. One of the teachers at a superior Catholic school in Braunsberg, Dr. Wollmann, had refused to embody in his instruction the doctrine of the Infallibility of the Pope. On the contrary, he had denounced it to the youth entrusted to his care, as a glaring imposture. Upon this the bishop of the province, the Bishop of Ermeland, first reprimanded him, then insisted upon his expulsion from the school, and finally excommunicated him. The doctor stoutly refused to go, and appealed to the Ministry of Public Instruction. The adverse opinions of Mühler, the Minister, and the head of the Catholic department in the Ministry, in this case, probably brought about the crisis. But it was coming long before. The truth is, that never has a greater blunder, proceeding from self-destruction, been committed by the Church of Rome than the declaration of the Pope's independence. You recollect that even before Döllinger spoke out, I directed your attention to what was going on among the Catholics in Germany, and observed that the Jesuit advisers of Pio Nono had sown the wind, and ought not to be astonished if they should reap the storm. The storm is there, a whirlwind of increasing radius, which gradually draws everything into it. Austria, Bavaria—where the dissolution of the Chamber and a new election will soon give the finishing stroke—and now Prussia, too, are lost for ever to the Holy See. The Catholic masses have become confused, and get more so from day to day, and the Governments, safe against revolution by the failure of the French bugbear at home and abroad, and by the awakened patriotism of the German nation, begin to sneer at the pretence of the Catholic priesthood to be the most potent champions of social order."

The *Cologne Gazette* describes the election of Dr. Döllinger to the post of rector as an event of great importance—

By taking this step the University of Munich has placed itself in the foremost rank of the great ecclesiastical conflict of our age, and has gained a position which even Berlin cannot claim. The States to which the Universities of Northern Germany belong, the way in which they were founded, and their confessional character, render them the representatives of Protestantism. Munich, on the other hand, is the oldest German University which has assumed the character of a school for all branches of science, and, until very lately, it was considered the stronghold of the strictly Catholic party. Now, fifty-four professors out of the sixty-three who were entitled to a vote have elected Dr. von Döllinger, who is excommunicated, and, more than this, the leader of the Old Catholics, as next year's Rector of the University. By so doing they have in the most distinct manner confirmed the protest made a year ago by forty-four professors and teachers of the university against the claim of the Vatican Council to be considered œcumenical, and the binding character of its decree with respect to the infallibility of the Pope. The fact that of late years the University of Munich has taken but a small part in politics, and that the political views of the majority of its teachers were till lately exceedingly moderate, clearly proves how false is the assertion of the Ultramontanes that the resistance to the new dogma is the work of a political party. The Ministry of State and the Royal Patron of the University have now to decide whether they will sanction the election ; but whether they confirm it or not, the vote does honour to Bavaria and Germany. The election is the more important as the anniversary of the foundation of the Ingolstadt-Landshut-Munich University will be celebrated during the next rectorate, and Dr. von Döllinger would, on that occasion, worthily represent the dignity of Catholic science, and the respect which is its due. Professor Huber has prepared a plan of organisation for the General Catholic Conference which is to meet next September at Munich. It will be submitted to the preliminary assembly at Heidelberg.

At a meeting held at Heidelberg on Sunday by the Old Catholic party, under the presidency of Privy Counsellor Wendscheid, a radical ecclesiastical reform was unanimously advocated, in order fully to establish the original principles of Catholicism in accordance with present civilisation.

The Munich clerical papers announces the intention of the Minister Von Lutz to introduce a strict separation of Church and State.

A Vienna telegram of yesterday's date says :—"The proclamation issued here by the Old Catholics has been very successful, and over 1,000 families have formally joined the Old Catholic party."

The Jansenists of Holland have expressed to prominent members of the Old Catholic party in Germany a desire to enter into a connection with the Old Catholics.

According to a Paris paper the Swiss Government is just now occupied with a diplomatic question of some little interest. Notwithstanding the abolition of the temporal power, the Pope still maintains in Switzerland a representative of the Holy See. The Ministers are, therefore, desirous of determining on what basis the relations between the Swiss Government and Rome are henceforth to be established.

Archdeacon Jermyn, Vicar of Barking, Essex, is to succeed Bishop Claughton as Bishop of Colombo.

It is stated that the vacant Deanery of St. Paul's has been offered to Dr. Hook, Dean of Chichester, and formerly Vicar of Leeds. It is doubtful, however, whether he will accept it.

One of the Prince of Wales's livings has been sequestrated and declared vacant by the Bishop of Exeter, in consequence of the continued absence of the rector. It is the Rectory of Landulph, Cornwall, and is worth about 500*l.* a year.

The Athanasian Creed.—We hear that, at a recent meeting of the bishops, it was unanimously resolved to recommend that the Athanasian Creed should be retranslated.—*Guardian.*

Mr. David Duncan, of Manchester, has been disowned by the Society of Friends—that is, deprived of all the privileges of membership—for taking the chair at one of the recent lectures by the Rev. Charles Voysey.

Church-rates in Sunderland.—The Act of 1867, passed to do away with compulsory Church-rates, does not appear to have accomplished that at Sunderland. Several persons were summoned on Saturday for non-payment of these imposts, levied under a local Act passed in 1719. Sir H. Williamson, M.P., the presiding magistrate, asked if the Act of 1867 did not abolish the impost, and was informed that the Court of Queen's Bench had decided that the rate (which was applied partly in the payment of the rector's salary) was not for an ecclesiastical purpose, and was therefore not abolished. An order for payment was made, Sir H. Williamson remarking that the law appeared to be in a very unsatisfactory state, for if a rector's stipend was not an "ecclesiastical purpose," he did not know what was.

The Church Reformers.—The annual meeting of the Church Reform Union was held on Friday in the Library of the Social Science Association, Adam-street, Adelphi. The Right Hon. W. F. Cowper-Temple, M.P., took the chair, and was supported by Sir George Young, Bart., Mr. Salt, M.P., the Rev. W. H. Fremantle, M.A., the Rev. W. Jelf, M.A., and others. The report stated that there was a growing feeling in the country favourable to Church reform, and dwelt upon the two conferences that were lately held in the rooms of the Social Science Association, at which Lord Ebury, Sir Antonio Brady, the Rev. Dr. Raleigh, and others were present. In conclusion, it reviewed the work done by the Houses of Parliament in regard to Church reform. The report having been moved and adopted, the chairman alluded to the several Acts relating to the Church which had been passed, and dwelt upon those that were at present engaging the attention of the House.

The Clergy and Science.—The following paragraph from the scientific newspaper, *Nature*, of Aug. 3 (p. 257), should be noticed by those who still look upon the clergy of the Church of England as the promoters of culture :—"Probably few of the readers of *Nature* are aware how bitter an opposition is offered to science teaching by the clergy in many parts of England. The schoolmaster who, being himself a clergyman, ventures to insist on science as a necessity in his school curriculum, finds himself the object of a conspiracy as adroit as it is unscrupulous. No matter how able and energetic he may be, no matter how unmistakeably he may care for the moral training of his boys, there is an accursed thing in the midst of them ; the word goes forth to ostracise him, the dexterous calumny is dropped in fitting places, his neighbours send their sons elsewhere, and his schemes are broken up. This, which has happened more than once, must happen many times, unless such hapless pioneers of science can be made to feel that they are backed by men of character, by men whose names are known, to whom they can appeal, who can interfere on their behalf with weight to convince or to overawe their persecutors."

The Bishop of Manchester on the Proposed Madagascar Bishopric.—Speaking at the Salisbury Diocesan Anniversary of the S.P.G. and S.P.C.K., the bishop touched prominently on the Madagascar Bishopric question. The missionaries of the London Missionary Society had been working there for many years, and had succeeded in converting, he believed, a large proportion of the people, especially in the capital city. He believed there were some five-and-twenty missionaries employed by the society in the island. However, that society retired from a prosperous district in Tinnevelly in favour of the Church Missionary Society, and from another field in favour of the Propagation Society. They said, "If you will take over this work, we will resign it rather than seem to be working in rivalry with you." As far as he knew, there were three missionaries belonging to the Church Missionary Society, and there was one belonging to the Propagation Society, working in the island of Madagascar. He valued as much as any man the integrity, the catholicity, the breadth and grandeur of the noble creed of the Church of England ; but when he heard the Bishop of Calcutta say—and Sir Charles Hobhouse bearing the same testimony—that the one great hindrance to the propagation of the Gospel abroad was the crossings and intersections, the perplexities, the differences and rivalry existing amongst Christians, he asked was it worth while as a Church to step in where there was another Christian community doing the work, and where if they stepped in they could only do so at the cost of disunion and controversy, as they had seen ? It was not as if the island of Madagascar was the only spot where the Church could go forth and occupy. There was abundance of field for labour in various parts of the world ; and although his voice was feeble and his influence feeble, still he would counsel those who had the government of the missionary efforts of the Church of England to organise and systematise those efforts, and enter into something like a compact with other bodies, in order that the heathen world might not be subject to those unseemly spectacles which they must know weakened the missionary cause both in this country and abroad. He thought, again, that they should do nothing, or next to nothing—for what had been done was as nothing to the land remaining to be occupied—until they had planted on every soil where they had planted Christ's cross a native ministry.

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. Henry Josiah Lewis, of the Lancashire Independent College, has accepted a unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the Congregational Church at Brigg, Lincolnshire.

Rev. Henry Allon, D.D.—We learn from the American journals that the degree of Doctor of Divinity has been conferred by the University of Yale, at the opening of its session, upon the Rev. Henry Allon, of Islington. As our readers will be aware, Yale is one of the oldest and most distinguised seats of learning in the United States ; and the respected pastor of Union Chapel may, therefore, be congratulated upon the distinction thus conferred upon him. No living English minister, we believe, has obtained a degree from the same University ; and there are only eight instances of a similar honour having been awarded during the past forty years. The last four English ministers who received the degree were Dr. Pye-Smith, Dr. Wardlaw, and Drs. Reed and Matheson, on their official visit. We learn, moreover, that the President of Yale for over forty years—Professor Woolsey—has retired from office, and has been succeeded by Professor Noah Porter, who was unanimously elected to the office.—*English Independent.*

Correspondence.

SCHOOL FEES TO DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Dear Sir,—I feel very deeply indebted to you for the article on the educational question in your last number, and I trust it will be the means of rousing the Dissenters generally in the country to understand the points at issue, particularly relative to the payment of fees in denominational schools, and to take action upon it. I have been and am so deeply impressed with the necessity of developing a scheme for the primary instruction of the London poor, that beyond setting forth principles and urging them, I have done nothing to ask for that *external support* which is really necessary to show to the London School Board the importance of the question at issue.

The merits of the question and the principles involved are not properly understood by many high-class men at that board, and you have done the greatest service by explaining the nature and grounds of the conscientious objections entertained to the whole scope of the religious teaching intended.

Faithfully yours,

A MEMBER OF THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

Aug. 5th, 1871.

CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—Will you oblige me by giving a place in your columns to a brief reply to Mr. Gamble's letter of the 26th ult.? I should have written sooner but for an unexpected and urgent summons which called me to Scotland on the very day on which Mr. Gamble's letter appeared. In writing now, I regret that I am compelled to rely on my recollection of the substance of Mr. Gamble's complaints and imputations ; but that recollection is complete and vivid enough to serve me in the general reply to which I propose to confine myself.

Mr. Gamble evidently wrote under the impression that the effort to obtain complete and trustworthy statistics of the Congregational churches is a thing hitherto unheard of, and that we are indebted for it to certain men of a new school, who are seeking to corrupt the fine Congregationalism of our fathers into something little better than Presbyterianism. I would fain disabuse his mind of an impression which has evidently troubled him, and even made him indignant. It should suffice for this that I am able to inform him that the pernicious novelty is as old as the Congregational Union, which from the first has announced it as one of its objects "to obtain accurate statistical information relative to the Congregational churches throughout the kingdom and the world at large." It is true that the Committee of the Union has not issued an annual schedule, but even that is not absolutely

new; as at least two separate attempts, substantially the same as the present, have been made to induce the churches to supply such information as would furnish materials for the formation of a fair estimate of their strength, and of the work in which they are engaged. As to Presbyterianism, I was born and nursed in that school, and thought, till now, that I knew something about it; but my utter inability to see even the faintest tincture of Presbyterianism in the respectful request for co-operation in an effort to ascertain facts addressed by the committee of the Congregational Union to the Congregational churches, ought perhaps to diminish my confidence: it has certainly convinced me that there is confusion of thought somewhere.

Mr. Gamble applies the ugly word "inquisitorial" to the circular of the committee, and illustrates his meaning by saying that it contains twenty-six questions, and that by one of them he is required to state the amount of his income. There are *very nearly* twenty-six questions in the circular, but their character may be judged by the fact that they concern no point on which information is not spontaneously given in every Church manual I have seen. If all the churches published manuals such as it is now common to publish, the Union would be spared the trouble and expense of issuing a schedule. To require a minister to state the amount of his income, as Mr. Gamble puts it, savours of the inquisitorial, no doubt, but the Committee of the Union have been guilty of no such impropriety. They do *request* the *churches* to which the circular is addressed to state how much money they raise "for worship and the ministry"; but this Mr. Gamble must, on reflection, see is very different from *requiring* a *minister* to state the *amount* of his *income*.

Mr. Gamble challenges us to state what service the possession of the information sought would enable the committee to render to the churches. I reply in one sentence, that the mere publication of the information in totals as contemplated, would, in the opinion of the committee, be an important service rendered to the churches. The information would concern the property held by those churches; the money contributed by them for spiritual and benevolent uses; their membership, and the number of their congregations; the extent to which they are engaged in the labour of the day-school, the Sunday-school, and the ragged-school; the number of home missionaries and lay preachers connected with them; and, in general, the share which they are taking in Christ's service in England and elsewhere. Such information would be at all times important, as furnishing to the churches a mirror in which they might see themselves, in much that concerns the spiritual life which they have in common with other churches, and in much that concerns the action of their distinctive principles; but it would be specially important at present, when the air is full of voices calling upon the several denominations each to set its house in order for the great changes which are coming.

I am, &c.,
ALEXANDER HANNAY.

St. Andrew's, August 7, 1871.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday Lord OVERSTONE again called attention to the abandonment of the Berkshire Camp, and read a resolution come to by the committee of farmers appointed to co-operate with the Government, protesting against the insufficiency of the reasons alleged for removing the operations elsewhere, and complaining of the want of courtesy with which they had been treated. He also asked certain questions relative to the reports upon which the War Office had acted; which Lord GRANVILLE, in the absence of Lord Northbrook, declined to answer, no notice of the questions having been put upon the paper.

A BILL FROM THE COMMONS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the House of Commons' Witnesses Bill, which allows witnesses to be examined by committees of the other House under the sanction of an oath. He was proceeding to state that the bill was founded upon the report of an influential committee of the other House, when Lord SALISBURY, interrupting, objected on the point of order to any reference to a report which had not been laid upon their lordships' table. The LORD CHANCELLOR said that if the objection were persisted in he must postpone the second reading. Lord GRANVILLE thought it would be regarded as an act of discourtesy to the other House to postpone the bill to another session upon any such ground. Lord BEAUCHAMP, remembering that the bill had been lying upon their lordships' table for two months, said that no question of urgency could be alleged. Lord CHELMSFORD suggested that the debate should be adjourned until Tuesday, in order to allow the report of the Commons' Committee to be laid upon the table. Lord SALISBURY, who had given notice of his intention to move the rejection of the bill, saw no reason for adjourning the debate. Their lordships divided on the question that the debate be adjourned which was carried by 48 Contents against 32 Not-contents.

The Intoxicating Liquors Licences Suspension Bill was read a second time. The Army Regulation and other bills were forwarded a stage; and their lordships adjourned at half-past six o'clock.

On Friday, on the motion of Lord REDESDALE a new standing order was passed, requiring that bills from the Commons shall be erased from the minutes unless notice is given of the second reading within twelve sitting days after they have been laid upon the table.

THE BERKSHIRE CAMP.

The collapse of the Berkshire Camp scheme was the subject of further comment, Lord OVERSTONE calling for more documents, and Lord Vivian, Lord Malmesbury, and Lord Salisbury ridiculing the professed tenderness of the War Office for the troops, and blaming the Government for their discourtesy to the Berkshire farmers. One often heard of paper soldiers; but Lord MALMESBURY suggested that our regiments must be made of sugar if they could not stand a shower, while Lord SALISBURY said the English people were in a melancholy position if, with the wettest climate in the world, their army could not face wet weather. Perhaps it might be worth while to ask General Moltke whether the Prussian armies ever went out when it rained. Lord LONGFORD said it was the business of the Surveyor-General to facilitate measures resolved upon by the War Office, but he apparently raised difficulties and controlled not only those below but those above him. Lord REDESDALE believed the real reason of the change was that the original scheme had proved more costly than was expected, and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer would not sanction the Expenditure.

Lord NORTHBROOK defended the War Office. The only change in the plan, he asserted, was the scene of the operations—the operations themselves would be the same as first contemplated, only they would be performed in Hampshire and Surrey, instead of in Berkshire. No discourtesy was intended to the farmers' committee, but Mr. Cardwell assumed that it was enough to communicate with Colonel Loyd Lindsay. When called upon the troops would be ready to manœuvre in any weather, but some consideration should be shown to them and to the reserve forces when they were simply sent out for tht purpose of manœuvres. Lord TRURO pointed out that the character of the manœuvres would be so far changed that the troops would be broken up into two or three small camps instead of being moved *en masse*.

The Army Bill was read a third time and passed, under a parting fire of protests from Lord Melville, Lord Exeter, Lord Romilly, and Lord Clanricarde. An amendment moved by Lord STRATHNAIRN, to give the Commander-in-Chief the power of appointing officers to the militia, instead of the Secretary for War, was withdrawn after some discussion, and an assurance from Lord Northbrook that appointments would be made by the Commander-in-Chief, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.

The Lodgers' Goods Protection Bill was read a second time, and their lordships adjourned at half past seven o'clock.

On Monday Lord SYDNEY brought up Her Majesty's answer to the Address agreed to, upon the motion of Lord Nelson, relative to St. Katharine's Hospital. It promised consideration to the prayer of the address.

Lord COLCHESTER called attention to the law regulating public meetings, in connection with the recent meeting in Trafalgar-square. Lord MORLEY maintained that the Home Secretary had acted in strict conformity with the law, the provisions of which he explained.

The Local Government Board Bill was read a second time.

The Intoxicating Liquors Licences Suspension Bill was discussed in committee, when Lord BEAUCHAMP proposed an amendment extending the scope of the bill so as to include the grocers who sell wines and spirits. After some discussion, in which Lord Salisbury and other peers took part, Lord HALIFAX pointed out that as the bill only applied to licences granted by the justices, and the grocers' licences were granted by the Excise, the amendment would be inoperative. The amendment was accordingly withdrawn, with the understanding that the matter should be considered on the report. Some discussion then arose upon the clause which enables licences to be transferred from certain districts where there is an excess of public-houses to adjacent districts where there may be a deficiency. Lord HYLTON objected to the clause as defeating the object of the bill, which was to diminish the number of licences; and the Duke of RICHMOND pointed out that it empowered the magistrates of one petty sessional division to transfer a licence out of an adjoining division without the consent of those magistrates. Lord HALIFAX was willing that this blot should be amended; but Lord HYLTON divided against the clause, which was retained in the bill by 26 against 13.

On the second reading of the Sunday Observance Prosecutions Bill, Lord CHELMSFORD described the bill as intended to disable the Act of Charles II., which was now nearly a dead letter. He trusted that the Government would bring in a more complete measure next session, which would give the tradesmen of the metropolis the blessing of a day of rest. The bill was read a second time.

The Sasines Register (Scotland) Bill was opposed at considerable length by Lord COLONSAY, and the Duke of ARGYLL, as the matter was not one of urgency, consented, on the part of the Government, to its withdrawal.

The Lodgers Goods Protection Bill went through committee.

The Public Libraries Act (1855) Amendment Bill, which extends to towns having local government the powers enjoyed by corporate bodies, was, on the motion of the Duke of RICHMOND, read a second time.

Lord SALISBURY gave notice that he should not that day persist in his opposition to the House of Commons' Witnesses Bill, an amendment having been agreed to by the Lord Chancellor which obviated his objections.

Their lordships adjourned at half-past seven.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

IRISH UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

On Wednesday, Mr. FAWCETT moved the second reading of his University Tests (Ireland) Bill. He stated that it proposed to carry into effect three objects—first, to abolish all religious and clerical tests in the University and Trinity College, Dublin; secondly to establish a representative board (consisting of a due proportion of the corporate body of the college, the teaching body of the university, and the general graduates) which would have under their charge all academical and educational affairs both of the university and the college; and thirdly, to vest all the management of the college in a body composed of senior fellows and a certain proportion of the junior fellows of the college. It would admit not only Catholics, but every Protestant Dissenter, not only to foundation scholarships, but also to foundation fellowships, and give them in every respect an equal opportunity with every member of the Church of England of exercising a governing power over both the university and college, alike in educational and domestic concerns. As the University of Dublin consisted of only one college, and as it might be difficult for English members precisely to understand its constitution, he might explain that the University of Dublin was in most respects exactly analogous to what the University of Cambridge would be if the only college in that university were Trinity College; and the object and chief design of the bill was to make the future government of the University of Dublin exactly analogous to what the government of the University of Cambridge was at the present moment. The new board he proposed for the academical and educational government of the University of Dublin and Trinity College was formed on principles analogous to those on which what was known as the University Council at Cambridge was constituted. In one respect there was an important difference between the University of Dublin and the University of Cambridge. Both at Cambridge and Oxford it was well known that it was impossible for any one to obtain a degree unless he resided within the precincts of the university during a certain portion of his academical curriculum; but in the University of Dublin it was not necessary for a man to reside at all in order to obtain a degree. In this respect it was similar to the London University, where men were enabled to take degrees without residence, having simply to appear at periodical examinations. As a matter of fact, at the present time, as he was informed by the Provost of Trinity College, a considerable portion of the undergraduates were English clergymen who, not having obtained a degree at either university, after discharging duty, perhaps in Wales or Ireland, had passed their examinations in Dublin and thus without residence obtained degrees. It was obvious if the University of Dublin were completely thrown upen, as he proposed, to the whole Irish nation, independent of their religious opinions, it would bring university education much more within the reach of every private home in Ireland than the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge did to every English home, because residence was not required in Dublin as it was at the English Universities. It might be urged against the bill, that Trinity College had always been a Protestant institution; and probably they might hear taunts about unworthy conversions. But the last place in which such taunts should be used was in that House. (Hear, hear.) He was prepared most unhesitatingly to assert that the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College were acting in this matter with the most implicit good faith, and were as anxious to make the measure complete and just to all the inhabitants of Ireland, as the holders of the most advanced opinions on university education. The circumstances were now entirely different from what they were when he first brought the question before the House. They felt and avowed it with the most admirable candour that directly the Irish Church had been abolished their position as the heads of a Protestant institution was completely changed, and it was impossible for them to maintain the same arguments they had advanced in previous years. The authorities of the Dublin University felt that nothing could be more unfortunate for an academical institution than to be worried by constant legislative interference, and in the spirit of perfect frankness they wished the change to be made should be completed at once. (Hear, hear.) But then it might be said the bill was not accepted by the Catholics of Ireland, as rendering to them the justice they demanded with regard to university education. Now, it should never be forgotten that there were Catholics *and* Catholics in Ireland; and when an hon. gentleman spoke as a Catholic member, although prepared to

treat his opinions with the utmost respect, they all knew, when it was said the Catholics desired this and that, it was not all, but only a portion of the Catholics of Ireland in whose name he spoke. He could only say no one was more sincerely anxious to do perfect justice to the Catholics of Ireland than he was. He wished to see them placed, as regards university education, both in England and Ireland, in a position of exact equality with the members of the Church of England. He had taken every precaution that this bill should do them complete justice. Surely the Government ought to be grateful to an independent member for taking up one of the subjects with which they must otherwise deal next session; and if they did not, a practical injustice would be done to the Irish people, for next year one of the most distinguished Catholic students, if the bill passed, would be elected to a fellowship in Trinity College, Dublin, and would thus obtain the just reward of his intellectual attainments. It was not for him to anticipate the decision of the Government with regard to an autumn session: but if this bill were carried by a decided majority, as he believed it would be, it would clear the way for speedy legislation next session; and, as the fellowship examination was held in Trinity College in May, the bill might even then become law in time to enable that most distinguished Catholic student to whom he had referred to obtain his fellowship. (Hear, hear.)

Viscount Crichton, who seconded the motion, declared that it was approved also by Protestant opinion.

The opposition to the bill took the form of the previous question, moved by Mr. Pim, who maintained that the Roman Catholics would not be satisfied with the proposed arrangement. They asked for bread, and they were offered a stone. They would insist on having a university of their own, and, sooner or later, Parliament would grant this demand. Therefore, as a Protestant, he objected to the useless destruction of a Protestant university. He dwelt, too, on the effect of the bill on the internal economy of the university, showing that it must break up the divinity schools, the moral philosophy and ecclesiastical history and other classes; and disclaiming any connection with or prompting from Cardinal Cullen, he went on to argue in favour of denominational education as more conducive to harmony than the mixed system.

Sir R. Blennerhassett seconded the amendment, representing the uselessness of discussing the question this year, when nothing could be done more valuable than affirming a mere abstract resolution. Moreover, he objected to the principle on which the bill was framed, showing by an elaborate historical retrospect that it had always failed in Ireland, and argued that it did not adequately meet the claims of the Roman Catholics, and did not put them in a position to start fair in the race.

Mr. Gladstone admitted that if this were the month of February, the Government would be either bound to support this bill, or to produce one of their own; but on the 2nd of August, he maintained it was contrary to Parliamentary precedent and the general rule of prudence that they should assent to the second reading of a bill which could not be carried further merely for the sake of publishing a manifesto. Therefore, he thought the previous question a most reasonable mode of meeting the bill. As to its principle, the complete abolition of religious tests, the Government cordially accepted it, and this concession having once been made, he desired to put it on record that it was absolutely irrevocable. At the same time, it was evident that Irish Roman Catholic opinion, as represented by the Irish members, was not satisfied with the bill, nor, indeed, did it do complete justice to them, and this led Mr. Gladstone to defend the policy of the Government in regard to higher Irish education from the charge of ambiguity which he had seen made against it, contending that on no question had the general outline of their policy been so clearly drawn. Religious equality had always been its main principle, and they had always maintained that the Roman Catholics had a grievance so long as university degrees were not conferred in Ireland without reference to religious opinions. Rightly or wrongly, a large body of Irish Roman Catholics were unwilling to send their children to institutions where their own religious opinions were not taught, and they ought not to be punished by disabilities on account of their opinions. At the same time, Mr. Gladstone remarked emphatically that the Government were as much opposed to the foundation of a denominational university in Ireland as when Lord Mayo proposed it. The right hon. gentleman then criticised very severely the imperfections of those portions of the bill which referred to University reform and the reconstitution of Trinity College. One of the defects on which he laid stress was that Roman Catholics could hardly obtain a sensible share in the governing body in the present generation.

Religious tests were removed, but the practical results of the religious liberty that was sought would only be attained through a very slow process of infiltration. His hon. friend was convinced that the passing of this bill would lead to the immediate election of at least one Roman Catholic Fellow. But how did he reconcile that opinion with the duties of the examiners? (Cheers) Was the Roman Catholic to be elected whatever might be his answer, or was only a moderate amount of favour to be shown him by the examiners? At present, the whole governing authority of the University was concentrated in the hands of members of the Disestablished Church. Within that period of time did his hon. friend imagine that it would be possible for the representatives of the Presbyterian, or, still more, of the Roman Catholic population, to become the strong and sensible element which they ought to be in the governing body of the University—twenty, thirty, forty, or fifty years? His hon. friend had astutely evaded this point; he had given no estimate whatever on the point, though the last date he had given certainly seemed the most probable. Parenthetically, he might congratulate the hon. and learned gentleman opposite (Mr. Plunket) on the certainty, under this bill, of retaining his seat for life. The religious opinions of the constituency would unfailingly retain a sufficient identity with those of the electors by whom he had been returned to send him to Parliament during the whole of his career, which he hoped would be long and he felt sure would be distinguished. The opposing elements which would find their way in would be as dust in the balance, and there would be no risk in the case of the hon. and learned gentleman of strife as severe as he himself had been doomed to suffer, or of a similarly final and somewhat decisive ejection. ("Hear," and laughter.)

Another alleged fault of detail referred to the proceeds of ecclesiastical patronage to be compensated for under the Church Act, estimated at 100,000*l.*

Was there nothing in the bill preventing the governing body of Trinity College laying out the money which it would receive from its advowsons in endowing churches for the disestablished Church in Ireland and constituting itself trustee? He was advised that there was not. His hon. friend had never dreamt of any such contingency. His head was so full of the abolition of tests, that, although his brain was certainly capacious enough, he did not appear to be able to take in any other consideration. And yet the House was on the point of being so fascinated by his hon. friend's eloquence, and by the zeal of his supporters, as to leave to the governing body of Trinity College the disposal of all this money for denominational purposes.

After repeating the plea against proceeding with a bill introduced so late in the session, he concluded—

In his opinion there never was a question which appeared to lie within narrower limits, one upon which any twelve reasonable men might not fairly be expected to arrive at a satisfactory settlement. But although the question was one which in itself might be dealt with in a simple and soothing temper and spirit, it was one which might also easily change its character, it was one into which the minds of men might import all those passions, all those sad recollections, all those disastrous prospects which had hitherto, and until very recently, attended the discussion and the settlement of Irish questions in that House. God grant it may not be the case, but the day might come when the passions in this country and the passions in Ireland, the *odium theologicum* on the one hand, and the *odium anti-theologicum* on the other, might give rise to feelings of such exasperation, that, in consequence of this small and comparatively paltry matter, the rich fruits of their labours on the Established Church and the land question, labours undertaken for the benefit of the whole society in Ireland, might be compromised or lost. The Government, at all events, would not be parties to anything that could conduce to such a result, and in anything that might be done in relation to this question, he hoped, therefore, that it might be conceived, it might be prosecuted, and it might be carried to its completion in a spirit of thorough peace and brotherly concord. (Cheers.)

Dr. Playfair supported the bill, remarking that Mr. Gladstone's argument against considering it might be borrowed in another place when the Ballot Bill got there. By recounting the various steps taken by the university authorities to adapt their education to modern requirements, he maintained that they had given ample guarantees for their liberal administration in the future.

Mr. Plunket made light of the difficulties which Mr. Gladstone had conjured up with so much solemnity, and argued that the bill, though not intended as a great work of reorganisation, was a just and sufficient reform, and would throw open the educational advantages and the government of the university to the Roman Catholics and Dissenters. He vindicated the motives of the University authorities, and was much cheered from the Liberal side in commenting on the vagueness of Mr. Gladstone's declarations for the future.

The right hon. gentleman had required the separation of the university from the college; he would not endow a Catholic University; but did he say a word about endowing a university college, or affiliating a strictly denominational college to the whole University of Dublin? Was that the plan of the right hon. gentleman? That, no doubt, was the scheme to be brought out conveniently when a bill was required for the support of certain parties in Ireland. (Renewed cheering.) But he was confirmed in the belief that the Liberal party would not allow any party considerations to induce them to give their sanction to any such proposition. (Hear, hear.) It was proposed to open every fellowship and every endowment without regard to religious profession; but it was also proposed that the governing body should make provision for the religious culture of all those who came to the university. As far as it was possible to judge, the next most probable fellow, if this bill was passed, would be a Moravian, and after him a Roman Catholic. If the Liberal party desired to encourage mixed education in Ireland, they could not take a more consistent step than in supporting this bill; if, however, they desired to encourage sectarian education, it was wise in them to support the motion for the previous question. (Hear, hear.) The university had its disposal endowments of 35,000*l.*; these could be taken and transferred. It had also 27,000*l.* in fees; these also could be taken, but they could not be transferred. Besides this, it had the power which came of *prestige*, not only arising out of the associations connected with the eminent men who had studied within its walls, but of the associations in the minds of the people arising from the fact that Roman Catholics and Protestants had lived in harmony under the shadows of Old Trinity. All this could be destroyed, but when the work of destruction had been finished, what would be set up in its stead? (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Hope opposed the bill on the ground that it destroyed all security for religious education.

The Solicitor-General for Ireland, in a speech of considerable length, and full of his usual jocosities, asserted that the bill was a crude, imperfect, and unintelligible measure. He referred in great detail to the divinity school of Trinity College possessing two professors, and asked whether the bill dealt in any way with that divinity school.

If it dealt with it, did it abolish it? If it did not abolish it, did it not allow divinity professorships to exist without requiring any religious tests from the holders of those professorships—a practical *reductio ad absurdum*? Was the theology to be taught here to be according to "the Brighton school"? (A laugh.) He believed that under the bill the divinity school would not be abolished, and that there were full provisions for for keeping up that school, and also the college chapel with its services: and yet, forsooth, they were told that the college was to be undenominational! As far as the bill did away with tests it had its cordial concurrence, and he would heartily support an abstract resolution for abolishing them.

The hon. and learned gentleman was proceeding to recapitulate all the arguments he had already used in the course of his speech against the bill, when he was interrupted by cries of "Divide," in answer to which he said that if hon. members thought they could stop him from proceeding by expressions of that sort the lesson of the last three months had been thrown away.

Mr. Vernon Harcourt, after a humorous comparison of Mr. Gladstone's "high tragedy" with Mr. Dowse's "low comedy," and declining to answer a "Solicitor-General talking against time," went on to make some severely sarcastic observations on the impossibility of bringing Mr. Gladstone to book on this question. No meaning could be extracted from his cloud of words.

The right hon. gentleman's speech had recalled to his recollection a remark once made by one of his colleagues on a speech delivered by him on the English University question, which was to the effect that he could have wished that the observations had fallen from any lips other than those of the right hon. gentleman, who had acted like a general firing his revolver in the faces of his own "forlorn hope" as it was ascending the breach. On the present occasion the Prime Minister had fired the whole six barrels of the Ultramontane revolver in the faces of those who supported this bill, and who had endeavoured to ascertain the intentions of the Government with reference to the question of Irish education without success. The real object of the Government in putting up individuals to talk out the bill was to enable them to conceal their opinions upon this subject. As had been said by Mr. Macaulay with reference to the right hon. gentleman's speech upon Maynooth, the conduct of the Prime Minister was difficult to understand before he gave his explanation, but after he had given it it became impossible to understand it. The right hon. gentleman had said that the opinions of the Government on the question of Irish education had never altered, and that they were uniform and consistent. But what were the opinions which had already been expressed by the members of the Government on the subject? Why, some few years ago certain members of the present Government had been parties to granting a charter to an Irish Roman Catholic University, and in 1867 the present Home Secretary stated that the plan he advocated was to grant a subsidy to Roman Catholic colleges. (Hear.) These, then, were the opinions that were to be carried out in future, according to the statement of the Prime Minister. He ventured to say that of all questions likely to affect the fortunes of the Liberal party none were of greater importance than that of Irish education, which was likely to prove the "Pearl Rock" on which their ship was being directly driven, under the guidance of the right hon. gentleman and his captains. (Hear, hear.) In answer to their inquiries as to what were the intentions of the Government on the matter, the Prime Minister had stated that this was a question which must be decided, not by the House of Commons generally, but by the Irish members alone. If the question of Irish education were to be decided by the votes of the Irish Roman Catholic members, there would, of course, be but one solution to it—namely, the endowment of Roman Catholic universities. (Hear, hear.) What he and those who thought with him wished to know was whether or not the Government intended to abide by the principle of mixed education in Ireland, and having stated that desire distinctly, he should not assist the Solicitor-General for Ireland in talking out the bill by making any further remarks. (Hear, hear.)

Sir D. Corrigan rose, amid loud cries for a division, at three minutes before a quarter to six o'clock, and he was proceeding to address the House when the clock struck the quarter, and the debate stood adjourned.

A question from Mr. Corry as to when the Navy Estimates would come on, elicited the stereotyped reply that it was impossible to name a day.

The House adjourned at five minutes to six o'clock.

On Thursday, Mr. Gladstone, amid much laughter, assured Mr. Macfie that there was no foundation for a paragraph which he read, that the Government favoured the migration of the Pope from Rome to a Scotch island.

PRINCE ARTHUR'S ANNUITY.

On the second reading of Prince Arthur's Annuity Bill, Colonel Barttelot took the opportunity of expressing a wish that Her Majesty would show herself more frequently among her subjects than had been her practice of late. It only needed that for her to gather to herself again the hearts of her people, and to become once more the most popular sovereign in Europe.

Sir W. Lawson explained the motives of his vote the other evening against the annuity—viz., that no proof had been given of this additional sum being necessary to sustain the pageantry of the Crown, and this was not a time for increasing the

unpopularity of monarchy by augmenting its cost. Colonel BERESFORD also spoke, regretting that Mr. Gladstone had not repeated what he said on the Princess Louise's annuity, that the revenue of the Crown lands, if left to the Sovereign, would have amounted to a million a year.

Mr. GLADSTONE dissented from this, and gave a correct version of his argument—that if the Crown lands had been left in the continuous occupation of the Sovereign and had not been used for metropolitan improvements, a million a year might have been obtained from them. Replying to Sir W. Lawson, Mr. GLADSTONE said that the Court expenditure had not greatly decreased since the death of the Prince Consort, and he pointed out to Colonel Barttelot that the Queen had appeared in public more frequently of late, adding that at all times she would be ready to meet the wishes of her subjects, and to perform any public duty which might be required of her.

Mr. Alderman LAWRENCE was of opinion that Mr. Gladstone's estimate of the possible income of the Crown lands was founded on a delusion.

The bill was read a second time.

THE BALLOT BILL.

The House then went into committee on the Ballot Bill. Commencing at Clause 28, the committee arrived at the last clause (57) soon after nine o'clock. The group of clauses defining and providing penalties for election offences, 29, 31, 32, and 33 (30 was omitted), were minutely discussed, and their rigour in one or two instances was diminished. For instance, in Clause 31, which relates to infringement of secresy, the information which it is penal for returning officers, presiding officers, and agents to disclose was limited to whatever is obtained by them during the time of polling, and before the declaration.

The other clauses were agreed to, after a running commentary, with a few verbal amendments.

The first of the new clauses taken were Mr. Forster's polling clauses. The first of these provides for the division of counties into sub-districts, that each voter shall have a polling-place within four miles, with the reservation that each district shall contain not less than 100 voters. Sir M. BEACH proposed to limit ths distance to three miles, and the minimum of voters to 50; but he was beaten in two divisions by 157 to 83 and 158 to 89. The other clauses relating to boroughs and general regulations excited no comment. A clause was settled after considerable discussion prescribing the notice the returning officer shall give of the days of election, and the next clause gave power to the returning officer to use the public elementary schools for polling-places; and Mr. FORSTER consented to an amendment, moved by Sir M. Beach, to make it compulsory on the managers to lend the schools. This was resisted by Mr. J. G. TALBOT and others, but was carried on a division by 190 to 43. It was provided that any damage done shall be made good by the returning officer, and also that the occupation of any empty house as a polling-place shall not have the effect of making it liable to rating.

The Irish polling-place clauses took a long time to dispose of, and after them came the case of Scotland, where the Government does not propose any alteration in the present arrangements. Great complaint was made of this, and Major WALKER moved a clause to place a polling-place within three miles of every elector, provided that no district shall contain less than 100 electors. After some show of opposition from the LORD-ADVOCATE, the Government gave way, and the clause was agreed to. At this point the chairman was ordered to report progress.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House was counted out at three o'clock.

On Friday, at the day sitting, Mr. RICHARD gave notice that he would early next session move a resolution to the following effect:—"That a humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to direct her Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to enter into communication with foreign Powers with a view to the establishment of a system of international arbitration."

Mr. MORRISON gave notice that next session he would move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Representation of the People Acts, and to substitute for the representation of places the principle of the representation of persons.

Colonel ANSON gave notice that, on the Military Manœuvres Bill, he will move a resolution regretting the abandonment of the Berkshire campaign, and expressing dissatisfaction with the state of things in the War Office, particularly as regards the difficulty of fixing responsibility in the case of a breakdown.

THE DUBLIN UNIVERSITY BILL.

Mr. FAWCETT withdrew the Dublin University Tests Bill, and, in answer to Mr. WHALLEY, Mr. GLADSTONE gave a long explanation of his speech on Wednesday on this subject:—

Since the disestablishment of the Irish Church the question of the position of Dublin University and College has not only been brought within the scope of the general subject, but has even come to constitute the principal and leading portion of it. Now, that could not be dealt with under any circumstances except by Act of Parliament. Consequently, it has become a matter for the consideration of Parliament, and I cannot anticipate any circumstances under which it would be becoming or expedient that the question of university education in Ireland should be dealt with by prerogative apart from a resort to Parliament; and most unquestionably it will never be done without a clear indication of Parliament in the first instance with a view of expressing its opinion. (Hear, hear.) I will also take this opportunity of offering an explanation with regard to the speech delivered by me on Wednesday last. I learn that after I had been obliged to leave the House a portion of that speech was understood—I know not by what mental process—to convey to the House an intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government not to endow a Roman Catholic University in Ireland, but to propose the endowment of a Roman Catholic College in Ireland. My speech contained no reference to a Roman Catholic College, and the reason why it contained no such reference was that the subject of the endowment of a Roman Catholic College in Ireland has never, as far as I am aware, been brought before the Government in any shape. If it has been brought under their notice, the circumstance has entirely escaped my recollection. No such intention, I believe, has ever been entertained. (Hear, hear.)

In reply to Mr. Talbot, the PREMIER said the Government meant to proceed with the Prison Ministers Bill.

A motion by Mr. Gladstone to give Government orders precedence on Wednesdays led Mr. RYLANDS to make some severe remarks on the accumulated arrears of public business, and the impropriety of allowing some 15,000,000*l.* of public money to be scrambled for at the fag-end of the session.

THE BALLOT BILL.

Prince Arthur's Annuity Bill having been passed through committee, the House then spent another couple of hours on the Ballot Bill, the preamble of which was at last reached and passed. New clauses, moved by Mr. BRUEN, authorising the use of voting-papers, and by Sir H. HOARE, prohibiting the engagement of paid canvassers under a fine, were rejected by majorities of 60 and 27. Mr. JAMES carried, by 132 to 54, a clause providing that no witness in any proceeding relating to the validity of a vote shall be asked how he himself has voted. The other new clauses were postponed until next session, when Mr. Disraeli's Act is to be amended. The schedules were rapidly disposed of, and, after compliments had been exchanged between Mr. FORSTER and the committee on the good temper and tact of the one and the forbearance of the other, the bill was ordered to be reported on Monday.

THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

The question of the American Treaty was raised by Sir C. ADDERLEY in a long speech in which he blamed the conduct of the Government in initiating the Conference by putting England, as it were, in the position of a petitioner; secondly, their substitution of the Alabama claims as a primary topic of Conference when it was merely an addition to that Conference; thirdly, their consent to substitute rules for our trial as to the fulfilment of obligations different from those which were primarily received; fourthly, the obvious inequality of foregoing on our part the similar and much stronger Fenian claims; and, lastly, the limit fixed for closing the claims of British merchants, whereas no limit was placed on the claims against ourselves. Sir Charles held that the Canadians had been very fairly treated in the treaty, except in regard to the absence of compensation for the Fenian raid.

Sir R. PALMER, whose speech was divided between the end of the morning sitting and the commencement of the evening one, contended that the treaty contained nothing which was compromising to the national honour or to the honour of Lord Palmerston's Government, of which he had been a legal adviser. That Government had, in his opinion, maintained an honest, fair, and consistent neutrality, but that did not preclude the reference of the question to arbitration. He much preferred this treaty to the unlimited and indefinite arbitration agreed upon between Lord Stanley and Mr. Reverdy Johnson. He approved the new rules laid down in the treaty; and as the United States would doubtless not have agreed to be bound by them in the future unless we had assented to their operation being made retrospective, it was worth our while to run the risk of having to undergo a pecuniary sacrifice in order to insure their adhesion to them. In point of fact, however, these new rules were in substance not very different from our own municipal law, according to the wide and liberal interpretation of it by Lord Palmerston's Government.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE, as one of the Commissioners, deprecated the production of their correspondence with the Home Government, not because there had ever been any substantial difference of opinion, but because it was inexpedient to fight the daily battles of the Commission over again. Although his personal and private opinions would have been in any case subordinate to his public duty, he cordially accepted the arrangement which had been come to, and felt proud of the share he had had in making the treaty. He maintained that there was great friendliness towards us on the part of the Americans, and that their very sensitiveness showed this.

Mr. GLADSTONE referred to our offer to settle the San Juan question by arbitration and the purchase of the Chinese flotilla lest it should fall into the hands of the Confederates, as proofs of our sincere anxiety to act in a friendly manner towards the United States. As to the treaty, no doubt a great concession had been made to America, but that concession had lain in this—that we had consented to go to arbitration as to our conduct in the administration of our own municipal law. That undoubtedly might be called stretching somewhat at least the measure of strict necessity in respect to the fulfilment of international duties; but was there anything unreasonable in that principle? It was conducive to peace, and he did not see that it involved disparagement to honour. He repudiated the idea that arbitration implied surrender. The arbitration would be a real, honest, and energetic, though, no doubt, a friendly contention.

After some remarks by Mr. B. COCHRANE, Mr. ANDERSON, and Mr. WHALLEY in opposition to certain parts of the treaty, and by Mr. RATHBONE in favour of it, the motion for papers was withdrawn. It was ten minutes to three when the House adjourned.

The House sat on Saturday for the purpose of forwarding several bills through a formal stage. Prince Arthur's Annuity Bill was read a third time and passed. The Judicial Committee Bill was after some discussion read a second time. The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to three o'clock.

THE LOSS OF THE MEGÆRA.

On Monday Sir J. D. HAY addressed an inquiry to the First Lord of the Admiralty upon the subject of the wreck of the Megæra, which he prefaced with a statement, placing himself in order by moving the adjournment of the House. For the present the most important information afforded by Mr. GOSCHEN was that, in addition to the steamers chartered at Hong Kong, H.M.S. Rinaldo has been ordered to proceed from Singapore to St. Paul's, where it is hoped she may arrive some days before the other vessel, which is expected to reach the island about the 29th inst. In addition to giving this information, however, the right hon. gentleman entered at length into the circumstances under which the Megæra was sent to sea, emphatically denying that by any report from Mr. Reed or by any other means the Admiralty had obtained any information which ought to have led them to believe that she was not in a seaworthy condition. At the same time he admitted that there were a great many circumstances which required investigation, and promised that they should undergo the most rigid scrutiny and inquiry. Lord H. Lennox, Mr. Liddell, Mr. Corry, and Sir Geo. Jenkinson reflected a good deal upon the course which the Board of Admiralty had pursued with regard to this ship and their treatment of Mr. Reed; while Mr. W. H. GREGORY declared that it was clear that whoever else might or might not be to blame, great reproach must attach to Mr. Reed, who, having a private quarrel with the First Lord of the Admiralty, had on that account abstained from warning him of the danger of sending the ship to sea.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply to Sir J. Pakington, said that the shape this investigation would take had not yet been settled, though he admitted that a court-martial would not suffice. He also referred to the reports to show that the only complaints received pointed to inconvenience and not to danger, and retorted sharply on a complaint made by Lord H. LENNOX of the postponement of the Navy Estimates, which provoked from Mr. DISRAELI the remark that everybody believed some unknown influence to have been at work to keep back the Navy Estimates, and that there was a general dissatisfaction with the change in the mode of conducting public business, which had deprived the House of its privilege of controlling the expenditure.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND was questioned by Mr. Pim, Mr. Callan, Sir J. Gray, and Mr. Downing as to the recent riots in Dublin, but was unable to afford any information, except that the newspaper reports were exaggerated.

THE BALLOT BILL.

The report on the Ballot Bill was then taken. A number of verbal amendments were made, but the only important change was to omit the requirement on the voter to make his mark on the ballot-paper "in the square." The reason given for this by Mr. FORSTER was that having experimented on seven M.P.'s six of them made their mark in the wrong place. In its place was substituted a general provision that the voter shall put his cross opposite the name of his favourite candidate. It was arranged, at Mr. DIXON'S suggestion, that the municipal authorities may lend the ballot-boxes for Parliamentary elections, and an attempt by Mr. GOLDSMID to strike out Clause 26, which prohibits the hiring of public-houses at elections, was thrown out by 71 to 30.

CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF ADMIRALTY.

On going into committee of supply on the Navy Estimates, Mr. CORRY called attention to the working of the changes introduced into the constitution of the Board of Admiralty by Mr. Childers. Illustrating his complaints by copious extracts from the evidence recently given before the Lords' Committee, he contended that serious detriment had happened to the public service by the abolition of the consultative functions of the board, by the reduction of the Parliamentary and permanent secretaries to mere departmental officers, and by the diminution of the naval element of the board. He concluded by moving that the Order in Council of January 14, 1869—by which these changes were effected—ought to be reconsidered by the Government.

Mr. GOSCHEN, while contending that Mr. Childers, from various causes, had met with great difficulties in carrying out his ideas, admitted that on many points there was room for reconsideration. For instance, he was rather in favour of having a financial naval lord and a general secretary instead of confining the secretary to financial functions, and he was also inclined to strengthen and extend the permanent portion of the Admiralty staff, so as to secure the great advantage of continuity. On other

points, such as those connected with the dockyards and victualling yards, he defended Mr. Childers' reforms. He was also in favour of a consultative board when matters of policy had to be dealt with. though strongly against giving it an executive function. As to the evidence quoted by Mr. Corry, he remarked that the Lords' Committee had not dealt fairly with Mr. Childers in their selection of the witnesses.

Sir J. Hay argued in favour of the old system of a consultative board. Mr. Seely thought the present constitution of the Board of Admiralty unsatisfactory, but equally disapproved the direction in which Mr. Corry wished to change it. He was in favour of doing away with the board altogether. Mr. Shaw Lefevre and Lord H. Lennox made some brief observations, and Mr. Corry's motion was withdrawn.

In committee a couple of votes for the Victualling Yards (68,334*l.*) and Medical Establishments (57,906*l.*) were agreed to.

The Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Bill was passed through committee, and, several other bills having been forwarded a stage,

The House adjourned at ten minutes past three o'clock.

Foreign and Colonial.

FRANCE.

It is officially announced that the successor of M. Jules Favre as Minister for Foreign Affairs is to be M. Charles de Rémusat. The appointment has been well received by the Paris papers. The *Temps* says that satisfaction is generally felt at a selection which honours and strengthens the Government. The *Débats* thinks that although the new Minister does not sit in the Assembly, and although his appointment was almost entirely unexpected, it is likely to be well received by the members.

On Wednesday last the Government was defeated on the Decentralisation Bill. M. Thiers announced that he should demand a vote of confidence. Eventually, however, the following compromise was agreed to:—The Departmental Commission will be presided over by the senior member. The Prefect will be entitled to take part in the deliberations of the Commission. The guardianship of the Communes will remain with the State until the adoption of a municipal law.

There has been an exciting debate in the French Chamber on the motion of a member that the war contributions, requisitions, and damages of all kinds occasioned by the German invasion should be borne by the entire French nation. M. Thiers objected on principle to the motion, and proposed that the debate should be adjourned, in order that a committee appointed in each of the invaded departments should confer with the Government agents, and make a report upon the extent of the damage sustained. This suggestion was violently opposed by M. Buffet, a large landowner who has greatly suffered by the invasion. He spoke with such virulence, and was so warmly applauded by the House, that M. Thiers became pale with rage, and replied with much severity, amid some interruptions from members. Ultimately the debate was adjourned.

The Military Committee of the Assembly recommend compulsory service in the army for all citizens between the ages of twenty and forty years —namely, four years' active service, five years in the first reserve, four years in the second reserve, and eight years in the third reserve, this latter reserve corps taking the place of the National Guard, which will be disbanded throughout France. The Chief of the Executive Power will be authorised to call out the first reserve by decree, the other reserves can only be called into active service by the passing of a law.

No agreement has as yet been come to between the different Parliamentary parties on the question of the prolongation of the powers of the Chief of the Executive, and there is much doubt whether it will be brought forward.

Out of fifteen members of the committee chosen to decide upon the transfer of the Chamber to Paris only three are in favour of the proposal. It is calculated that in the Assembly there are 360 members favourable to remaining in Versailles and 200 partisans of a removal to Paris.

It is stated that the Minister of Finance has completed the payment of one milliard of the war indemnity, and will pay up the 1,500 millions about the 25th of August. The evacuation of the departments bordering on the Seine is expected at the end of August. The German army of occupation is now only 150,000 men instead of 500,000.

The trials of Communist prisoners began on Monday. The indictment gives an historical synopsis of the doings of the Internationale preparatory to the insurrection. The official document next recounts the revolt of the 18th of March, and the crimes resulting therefrom. Charges then follow, first against Assi, who is accused of incitement to civil war, of usurpation of civil and military powers, of having assumed Government functions, and assisted in issuing orders, the consequence of which were devastation, massacre, pillage, arson, and assassination. All the accused are further charged with conspiring for the overthrow of the Government, with incitement to civil war, and usurpation of office and power. Courbet is specially accused of complicity in the destruction of the Vendôme Column; Lullier, of attempts to carry destruction, massacre, and pillage, into Paris, of having taken possession of city property appertaining to the State, and of having incited soldiers to join the ranks of the rebels. Grousset stands charged with active participation in the revolt, with public incitement to contempt of existing laws and of the National Assembly. Verdure, Billioray, and Ferré are arraigned for arbitrary confiscations, wanton destruction of private dwelling-houses and public monuments, sacrilegious pillage of churches, and assassination—they having voted for the execution of the hostages. Jourde is further charged with financial transactions involving the violation of the seals of the public chests and the squandering of public charities. All the members of the Commune are made responsible for the destruction of property by fire. *Figaro* is to be prosecuted for the publication of the indictment before the sitting of the court had begun.

The Municipal Council of Paris has elected M. Vautrain President by sixty-nine out of seventy votes.

M. Léon Say, the Prefect of the Seine, proposes that the city should contract a loan of 350 millions of francs, and authorise a floating debt of 60 millions of francs, for this year and the next.

The *Gaulois* publishes a letter from the Mayor of Bazeilles denying the statements contained in a recent letter of General von der Tann, and showing that the village of Bazeilles was not set in flames by shells during the battle, but by Bavarian soldiers, who spontaneously set it on fire after the fighting was over.

In Monday's *Journal Officiel* General Vinoy thanks the British nation for its contributions towards the fund for rebuilding the Palace of the Legion of Honour.

All the papers in Algeria are complaining of the little progress made by the expeditionary column. The small town of Djidjeli has been blockaded, for instance, by the Arabs since the 6th of July, and has not received sufficient reinforcements to make sorties. Many mills, farms, and crops belonging to Europeans had been destroyed.

Marshal MacMahon has issued a report of the casualties which occurred during the second siege of Paris. He says there were eighty-three officers killed and 430 wounded, 794 soldiers killed and 6,024 wounded. 183 men are missing.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The Emperor of Germany and the Emperor of Austria are to meet shortly at Ischl.

Gold has been discovered in New Caledonia in such quantities as to make "digging" an exceedingly profitable business.

A telegram from Copenhagen says that the Queen, the Prince, and the Princess Royal of Denmark, with the King of Greece, have gone on a visit to the Princess of Wales at Frankfort.

General Butler has nominated himself as a candidate for Governor of Massachusetts at the next autumn election, but the nomination fails to awaken much popular interest.

An announcement has been made at Florence that the Mont Cenis Railway will be opened from Bussolino to Modane on the 15th of September. Traffic along the whole line to St. Michel will commence at the beginning of October.

The ex-Emperor Napoleon is shortly expected at his seat at Arenenburg, in Switzerland. Part of his suite has arrived. It is said to be his intention to purchase several estates in the neighbourhood, one of which is that of Salenstein, on the Eugeneberg.

The Ambassadors of the American and English Governments have officially notified to the King of Italy that His Majesty has been nominated one of the five arbitrators for the settlement of the claims arising out of the Alabama question.

An Englishwoman on the Matterhorn.—It is stated that three English tourists, Mr. and Miss Walker and Mr. Gardiner, succeeded in making the ascent of the Matterhorn on the 22nd ult. Miss Walker is the first of her sex who has had the courage to grapple with the great difficulties experienced in reaching the summit of this mountain, which is 13,850 feet high.

Health of Switzerland.—Mr. Thomas Cook, the excursionist, writes from "Lucerne, July 31," —"I could learn nothing of the prevalence of smallpox or any other dangerous epidemic through the Rhenish districts, and I am assured, on reliable authority, that since February and March, when a few places were slightly affected, not a town in Switzerland has suffered, and not a case is known anywhere at the present moment."

The Maories and Education.—The most interesting feature connected with the natives at the present time is the desire they evince to get their children educated and taught the English language. Several schools are being established in native districts, towards the maintenance of which the natives themselves are making large contributions in land and money. The Government is using every endeavour to encourage this movement, and several schools are in course of construction in different parts of the island. Generally the Maories now appear inclined rather to make use of European civilisation and its resources to ameliorate their condition than to continue a struggle which always results in their defeat.

The Treaty of Washington.—A remarkable statement in reference to the Treaty of Washington has appeared in Canada, emanating from ex-Governor M'Dougall, an Opposition leader. He has written a letter to his constituency, in which he supports the treaty, taking the ground that, having been ratified by the two high contracting parties, it has the force of law, and no further legislation is necessary to give it effect. He says that Canada cannot reverse the policy of the Empire if she would, unless she is prepared to leave it. He thinks the guarantee of peace and the opening of the St. Lawrence river, involving the improvement of its navigation by both countries, are the great merits of the treaty.

The Recent New York Riot.—The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"The riot in New York is having as a sequel an outburst of indignation on the part of certain classes of the Irish, chiefly against Governor Hoffman for his proclamation declaring that the Orange procession should be protected. Those useful and valuable citizens, the Fenians, have once more come to the surface, and in windy resolutions denounced the Governor for bridling the Ribandmen. The officers of the Irish brigade in New York, which was not called out to aid in suppressing the riot, owing to the sympathies of its troops, are holding meetings for the purpose of getting up a grand mass meeting to denounce the Orangemen. At these gatherings violent speeches are made, and loud cries for revenge upon the Orangemen are uttered by both orators and audience. It is in contemplation by the New York authorities to allow no processions in future excepting upon special permission being granted by the Board of Police Commissioners. These Commissioners, in recognition of the service of the police in suppressing the riot, have dismissed all complaints made against the men. The violent disputes caused by the riot it was thought might cause a breach between the city and the State authorities, but Tammany Hall contains too prudent managers to permit of any such fatal result, and the 'cohesive power of the public plunder' will no doubt keep that party intact, smooth over all the quarrels among politicians engendered by the riot, reconcile the Irish factions once more to their leaders, and enable the Democracy to carry New York by as large majorities as heretofore. The carrying of elections is to be hereafter, as heretofore, the chief object of officials; and as a preliminary movement in the conciliatory course to be pursued, it is to be noted that all the arrested rioters have been let out of gaol, bail having been entered by politicians that they will keep the peace for six months to come. Hence the trials, which only one week ago it was said would result in condign punishment upon the ricters, will not now come off at all. Meanwhile badly wounded persons have this week been dying every day, and, consequently, the funerals of victims of the riot continue to be celebrated with elaborate ceremonies."

M. Gambetta on the Republic.—"R. H. H.," in a letter to the *Spectator*, gives some account of a conversation with M. Gambetta. He says—"It interested me much, and need be no secret from the rest of the world. Of course I know very well that a man in M. Gambetta's position does not tell to mere strangers the political secrets of his breast, if he has any. He tells just what he wishes to be known, or what he wishes to be believed, and nothing else. Yet it is a matter of interest—it is always an element in the political computation—to know what it is that a statesman desires to give out as his creed, as well as what is his creed. And I see no particular reason in the present instance why M. Gambetta's real creed should differ in any essential particular from that which he avows. He declares, then, that, for the first time, the Republican party feels sure of a majority, and of a decisive majority, not only in the towns, but in the rural districts. He declares that whether the next appeal to the country be made by Legitimists, Orleanists, or Republicans—by MacMahon, by the Princes of the Orleans family, by Thiers, or by himself—the result is almost as certain to be a great Republican victory as any event can be certain in political history. He repudiates with vehemence the notion of a *coup d'état*. He declares that the constant appeal to 'force' is the one great mischief of the immediate past, and that nothing should induce him to sanction it. He says it would be as foolish as it would be criminal, for it would be quite unnecessary. All the bulk of both armies, he says—both the new and the old—is, no doubt, Republican to the core; but then the country is Republican too, and there is no need for, nothing but mischief in, calling in the aid of the army. The higher officers of the old army and the Imperial Guard are the only reactionary elements, he says, in the army; and he does not in the least believe in the bitter jealousies said to exist between the two armies except as regards a handful of the higher officers. He has evidently a considerable fear that if the Republican movement goes on too rapidly and in a way to alarm the Germans, Prussia might still interfere; and I gather that a considerable part of his evident desire to be moderate arises from his dread of that event. As for the future, he declares that to attempt anything more against Germany without allies would be utter madness, and that the Republic once safe, he should wish to see reorganisation carried as far as possible, not in the immediate hope of any renewed struggle, but only in the ultimate hope that new combinations would open to France a fresh opportunity. In a word, M. Gambetta talks for the present with as statesmanlike a caution and as responsible a reserve as M. Thiers, though of course without any partiality for that statesman; and I am disposed to think that his real political mind is very like what he expresses, though I am not of course credulous about it. He is a man of wonderful personal force and impulse, and, as far as I could judge, of health perfectly

adequate to his great ambition—in spite of all that has been said to the contrary."

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty is expected to leave Osborne next Monday, the 14th inst., for Windsor Castle. It is stated that Her Majesty has arranged to postpone her departure for Balmoral from the 14th to the 19th inst., in the hope that the business of Parliament may be wound up so as to admit of the prorogation on the latter day. It is feared, however, that should there be any protracted discussions preparatory to the Committee of Supply, it will not be possible to bring the session to an end before the 22nd or 24th.

Sunday was the twenty-seventh anniversary of the birth of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Prince and Princess Christian have, by the advice of the Princess's medical advisers, arranged to spend some time at Ischl, and have taken up their residence at the Hotel Bauer.

The Count and Countess of Paris, who paid a farewell visit to the Queen at Osborne on Thursday, left York House, Twickenham, on Friday evening, accompanied by their family, for France.

The Emperor and Empress of Brazil have visited most of the public buildings and places of interest in Edinburgh, and the Emperor has attended various sections of the British Association. His Majesty visited the National Gallery and the Scott Exhibition on Thursday morning as early as half-past five. He has since been at York and Sheffield.

The Duke of Argyll will preside at the Scott Banquet in Glasgow this day. The Earl of Derby will also be present, and has intimated a donation of 100*l.* to the Scott Bursary Fund.

Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., has, it is stated, been suddenly prostrated by severe illness, the result of overwork. His health is so shaken that he was ordered to leave London at once, and has gone to Malvern.

It is stated that a memorial, numerously and influentially signed, is about to be presented to Mr. Bruce, praying for the liberation of Mr. Roupell, formerly member for Lambeth.

The will of Mr. George Grote, the historian, has been proved under 120,000*l.* personalty. He has bequeathed the copyright of his History of Greece to his wife, and after her decease to London University. He bequeaths to University College, London, 6,000*l.*, the annual income to form a perpetual endowment for a professorship of philosophy of mind and logic, to be over and above any other emolument; and it is not to be held by a minister of any religious denomination. John Stuart Mill is left 100*l.*

The Earl of Shrewsbury has found it necessary, in the interest of good order, to prohibit entirely the use of intoxicating drinks by the visitors whom he kindly admits to the gardens of Alton Towers.

The report that the Speaker of the House of Commons will retire at the end of the session is denied on authority.

It is rumoured that, on the Ballot Bill going up to the Lords, the motion for the second reading will be met by "the previous question."

Mr. James Paget, serjeant-surgeon extraordinary to Her Majesty, is gazetted a baronet.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. Ferdinand Faithfull, rector of Headley, Surrey, at the advanced age of eighty-two. His youngest daughter is well known to the public in connection with works for the elevation of women—educational and industrial.

It is stated that the Government will assent to a motion which Mr. Rylands will bring forward in committee of Civil Service Estimates against the payment of pensions out of the Secret Service Money.

IRELAND.

The accounts of the movements of the Royal party—the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, the Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn—show that they met with a very cordial reception in Dublin and its neighbourhood. The installation of Prince Arthur as a Knight of St. Patrick was a very brilliant and imposing scene. Subsequently Lords Powerscourt and Southwell were invested with the insignia of the Order. It was preceded by a State banquet, at which eighty-five of the principal nobility of Ireland were guests. The entertainment was given in the Long Portrait Gallery adjoining St. Patrick's Hall. The Grand Master, Lord Spencer, presided, and the knights were present in their robes.

On Wednesday the Royal party visited the Marlborough-street Model School. The girls, some six hundred in number, were ranged according to size. Drawings and paintings by the pupils were exhibited on the walls, and it was pretty to note how the well-known artistic sympathies of Princess Louise were enlisted at once, and the cordial, but by no means indiscriminating, appreciation Her Highness displayed for the young artists. The National Anthem was sung again when the boys' school was reached, the boys, some 700 in number, joining in it. Amongst the engagements of Thursday were visits to the Horticultural Show, the Zoological Gardens, and St. Vincent's Hospital; in the evening the Royal guests were entertained at a banquet and ball at the Viceregal Lodge.

The chief event of Friday was the review in Phœnix Park. No military pageant there in recent years has been so successful. The number of the spectators was immense. The Royal party were cordially received. Several heavy showers fell throughout the day, and acted as a slight drawback to the full success of the review. The Lord Lieutenant and Countess Spencer, with their Royal guests, the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, and Princess Louise, were present, as was also the Marquis of Lorn. Another event of the day was the installation of the Prince of Wales as Patron of the Masonic Order of Ireland. In replying to the address of welcome, the Prince said:—

Forgive me if I remind you that some of our friends outside are not as well acquainted with its merits as we are ourselves, and that a most mistaken idea prevails in some minds that, because we are a secret society we meet for political purposes, or have a political bias in what we do. I am delighted to have this opportunity of proclaiming what I am satisfied you will agree with me in—that we have as Masons no politics: that the great object of our order is to strengthen the bonds of fraternal affection, and to make us live in pure and Christian love with all men; that though we are a secret we are not a political body; and that our Masonic principles and hopes are essential parts of our attachment to the Constitution and loyalty to the Crown.

The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorn have visited the Queen's Institute, Molesworth-street—an institution devoted to the interests of women in the technical arts and accomplishments. The Royal party also paid a visit to the Belleek pottery works. On Saturday the Royal party went to the Wicklow mountains and Powerscourt.

On Monday afternoon the Royal party passed through the main thoroughfares of Dublin to Kingstown. The route was lined with spectators, but no dense crowd occupied the thoroughfare. Cheers greeted the *cortége*. The escort consisted of the Carabineers, and was unusually large, with double vedettes and a strong advanced guard. The Royal party drove in perfectly open carriages; the Lord-Lieutenant and Countess Spencer occupied the first, and in the second were the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, Princess Louise, and the Marquis of Lorn. The windows along the route were filled with gaily-dressed persons. There was a slight hiss at the City Hall as the Lord-Lieutenant's carriage passed. No mounted policemen either preceded or followed the *cortége*. The day being delightfully fine, the streets were crowded, and were thronged with private carriages. All the flags and decorations remained up. As the carriage of the Prince of Wales passed on from Essex-bridge, at the head of Parliament-street, into Dame-street, there was a cheer given, which was cordially acknowledged by the Royal party. They reached Kingstown about two o'clock. The yacht moved slowly out of the harbour, the Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, and the Princess Louise standing in prominent places on deck, while the assembled spectators cheered lustily.

The Nationalist papers of Ireland denounce the "detestable falsehoods" that have been propagated respecting the Royal visit. The *Nation* declares that in only half a dozen streets were any decorations seen, but that green flags bearing the motto "Home Rule" appeared in several places. The *Irishman* is more outspoken, and says the invasion of foreign princes was a dead failure in every respect; that at the Cattle Show the people admired the cattle and each other, but ignored the princes; that on every occasion "when the Royal show was exhibited," the people looked on with good-humoured contempt; that the flags, like the visitors, were imported articles; and that "the vengeance of a watching Heaven is certain, though is slow."

On Sunday there was a deplorable riot in the Phœnix Park, owing to an attempt, on the part of the "National" party, to hold a meeting to demand the release of the Fenians still in prison in England, against the prohibition of the Board of Works. Mr. Smyth, the newly-elected Nationalist Member for Westmeath, was chairman of the meeting. While the people were assembling around the Wellington monument, the police arrived in great force, freely used their batons, and charged the crowd. When the band came up playing national airs, the police attacked them. The latter got hold of the bandsmen and belaboured them with their batons, and seized their instruments, which were seen flying in all directions. Reinforcements of police were constantly being brought up, and were pelted with stones. They formed into large separate bodies, and charged at intervals in various directions. Crowds, however, were reformed almost as soon as they were dispersed. In giving details of the disturbance, the correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, writing on Monday, says:—

The meeting is regarded in Dublin as having been an audacious, wicked, and senseless proceeding, without extenuation, and the conveners are condemned with a more general accord than has been witnessed for years on any political subject. Mr. P. J. Smyth, M.P., is repudiated by many of those who have been associated with him in public matters. On the other hand, the police are not absolved. They behaved with ferocity, and their only excuse is that they were to all appearance under very incompetent guidance. The measures taken for suppressing the meeting were the most impolitic conceivable. Instead of bringing to the ground an overwhelming force, and preventing a muster of the people by dispersing every small number who collected, they waited until 8,000, according to a moderate computation, were assembled, when a riot was inevitable. The means taken to notify the intended suppression of the meeting were likewise inadequate, and nine-tenths of those present were actually unaware that it had been prohibited. The police were undoubtedly first assailed, their inspector having received several blows, but an interval elapsed between this occurrence and "the charge." Many stories are told of policemen having singled out individuals for attack, and persons scattered through the park and even women and children received blows of batons. The excitement had much calmed, but the hatred excited against the police is likely to become enduring. The serious cases in hospital number about six; somewhere about sixty persons in all were injured, and a considerable portion of these are policemen. The stones thrown by the populace must have been carried by them to the spot, as there is nothing in the neighbourhood but pebble walks and green sward. The Dublin journals comment variously on the matter, the *Evening Mail* declaring the conduct of the police "inexplicably fierce and wanton," but adding of the projectors of the meeting that "public opinion will try, and we doubt not condemn, men who have recklessly violated the sanctity of a festival," and offered a "most offensive affront to the visitors of the nation." The *Freeman's Journal* calls for an immediate inquiry into the conduct of the police. The *Daily Express* considers the whole occurrence, and especially the breaking of Mr. Kerr, the porcelain manufacturer's, windows, whose establishment the Princess Louise visited, "a significant example of the gratitude of Irish patriots for the zealous advocacy of home rule" by some respectable citizens and large employers.

Mr. P. J. Smyth has addressed a letter to the Marquis of Hartington, in which he demands an immediate inquiry regarding the events of Sunday. He adds that the notice of the Secretary of the Board of Public Works did not even allege that the proposed meeting was illegal, but simply announced that the police had orders to prevent it. He offered to the inspector to go before a magistrate with him, and said if the assembly involved any violation of the law he would submit to it, but he implored him not to allow his men wantonly to assail the people. His (Mr. Smyth's) words were, however, he declares, disregarded, with what result is already known.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

At Wednesday's meeting of the board Mr. Hepworth Dixon moved that the committee as well as the board meetings should be open to the public and the press. An amendment moved by Mr. Reed, M.P., was, however, carried, declaring the expediency of committee meetings being private. As it has been arranged that the School Management Committee is to be a committee of the whole board, half the meetings of the board will after the recess be held in private. The Finance Committee were authorised to borrow 100,000*l.* from the Public Works Loans Commissioners at 3½ per cent. It was resolved, on the recommendation of the Works Committee, to take over from its managers the Ragged-school in Church-street, Chelsea, this being the first school so transferred.

The second report on the scheme of education was afterwards brought up and discussed. One essential feature of the report was that all the "discretionary" subjects should be charged for in extra fees, so as to be self-supporting. Mr. Lucraft moved that all words having reference to the payment of extra fees should be struck out. He said that the working classes did not want free education, but they wanted all the subjects taught to be paid for in one payment. To demand an extra payment for teaching the poor man's child what was taught the child of the man better off would be to perpetuate those class distinctions which had existed too long, and were an evil in themselves. Mr. Lucraft was supported by Sir Thomas Tilson, Lord Sandon, the Rev. J. Rogers, and others, and ultimately his proposal was adopted, so that the weekly fees will cover all the instruction given. It was also agreed that the fees of the schools should not be less than 1d. nor more than 9d.; that the instruction in the discretionary subjects should not interfere with the efficiency of teaching of essential subjects, and that the half-timers should pay half fees, but not less than 1d. a week.

Five boys were brought up at metropolitan police-courts on Monday by officers of the London School Board, charged with vagrancy—two each at Marlborough-street and the Thames police-courts, and one at Greenwich. The two brought before the Thames police-magistrate were sent to an industrial school till they were sixteen years of age; and the two brought up at Marlborough-street were ordered to be detained until the necessary papers for their admission to industrial schools could be prepared. In the other case, the boy had been found running after vans and tumbling about on his hands and feet, but it appeared from his mother's statement that he went to school, and was only absent on Monday because the holidays were not yet over. Mr. Maude said the object of the London School Board was to rescue destitute and neglected children from the streets, and to educate them, but in the present case it was very credibly shown that education had been given. He should order the lad to be given up to his mother.

Halifax School Board.—On Thursday evening, the usual monthly meeting of this body was held at the Town Hall, Mr. Joseph Thorpe presiding. A long discussion took place as to the 6th bye-law recommended by the Compulsory Clauses and Schools Committee, which would authorise the board to send to denominational schools the children of parents too poor to pay for their education, and to pay the fees for such out of the school board fund. As an amendment to this, Mr. F. H. Bowman moved that the fees for poor children at denominational schools be paid by the board only until it had

erected schools of its own. The numbers for and against being equal, the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment, which was carried.

Wolverhampton School Board.—At the meeting of this board on Friday, Mr. Fowler in the chair, the adjourned debate on the motion of the Rev. Mr. Hampton, that the board should pay the fees of the children of indigent parents to any school selected by the parent, and the amendment of Mr. Jones to defer the question till the board may have its own schools and be in possession of further information, was resumed by Mr. Bantock, who in an able speech supported the amendment.

Mr. Forster, he said, had remarked that there was no religious difficulty, but he (Mr. Bantock) believed that by this time Mr. Forster and a great many others had found out that such a thing really did exist. He (Mr. Bantock) considered peace to be one of the first necessities of the religious and social life of a people, and peace could not exist unless there was perfect religious equality, and perfect equality in other respects before the law. The Church of England had, to a large extent, the education of the country in her hands. How was this? Nonconformists had ever been hearty in the cause of education, but they had clearly distinguished between things secular and things religious. True, they had not got so many day schools as the Church of England, but his statement as to the warmth of the Nonconformists in the matter of education was corroborated by the fact that they had as many Sunday-schools And was it to be wondered at that they were possessed of comparatively so few day-schools while a principle was in existence which forbade their receiving State money towards educational objects, while the funds by which schools for the Church of England and other bodies were built were helped considerably by grants from the public purse? The main reason of this distinction was that while the Nonconformists regarded secular and religious education as entirely distinct, the State had treated them as connected, but he was glad that now it had been decided for ever that it was the duty of the State to provide a suitable and efficient secular education only for all the children of our land. This was done in the fifth clause of the Act, which of itself rendered that Act invaluable, for it did not say that it was the duty of the State to provide a religious education, but it did say—what Nonconformists had said for ages—that it was the State's duty to provide secular education for the children of the country. The State disclaimed any right to give a denominational education by a subsequent part of the Act. As a Nonconformist, he was delighted with that part of the law, and if it had gone no further he thought all their difficulty would have been avoided, but unfortunately, contrary to the intention of the Prime Minister, contrary to the broad principle of the Act that no creeds or formularies should be taught in board schools, and from an attempt to serve two masters, there had been introduced a power for boards to pay the fees of children of indigent parents in denominational schools. Mr. Bantock here read a paragraph from one of Mr. Mander's letters—[recently noticed in our columns]—on this point, in which the writer admitted that the conscience of the indigent child ought to be respected as regarded religious teaching, but contended that that ought not to be done at the expense of the conscience of the ratepayer, and said it was the great demerit of the Act that it permitted the board to disregard the ratepayers' conscience in this respect. But why, Mr. Bantock proceeded to ask, was the principle of remitting fees to denominational schools introduced into the Act? Manifestly to gratify the Anglican or Church of England, and the Roman Catholic. Now, he would ask, was it wise and prudent for that board to avail themselves of a particular clause of the Act, which would throw discord among the different religious bodies of the town, when they could readily adopt a course by which they might still have harmony and good feeling. He did not say this as a threat, but as his opinion, that if this clause of the Act were taken advantage of, and if public attention were particularly called to it, the enlightened mind of the country would find out that the reason was that there was a Church established here and that there was not perfect religious equality, and hence would come up more rapidly than it otherwise would that question which had of late been fast coming to the fore, and which was at the root of the religious difficulty—he meant the question of the State Church. They were told that this payment of fees to denominational schools would not be a large matter in Wolverhampton, but however small it might be he could not forsake either his principles or his party to vote for it. Mr. Bantock proceeded to remark that he feared legislation and the Revised Code would cause many Dissenting schools to be thrown into the hands of the school boards because it was thought the Government allowance according to the new rate would cover the whole cost of the schools, including religious teaching, and thus violate the principles of Dissenters, which are adverse to State aid for religious teaching, and he then went on to ask to what class the children belonged whose school fees the board would be asked to pay? He replied that they would belong largely to the poor, to the immoral and the vicious, and in religion would mainly rank under the name of Roman Catholic. If so, they had a very great religious difficulty before them. The Nonconformists would be no parties to teaching Roman Catholic doctrines, and on this point their two representatives ought to find others on the board who would go with them. He could appeal, he fancied, to every member of the board in the matter. Besides, if the Act led to denominational teaching at the public expense in England it would bring about the same result in Ireland—(Hear, hear)—and subvert the plan now in operation for educating the children of that country in mixed schools. As an illustration of that system, Mr. Bantock produced two books containing religious lessons for mixed Protestant and Roman Catholic children in the national schools in Ireland, but Mr. Cornwall said he believed the use of those books had been cancelled. That Nonconformists would be compelled to cease taking State money for school purposes and were abstaining from denominational action as to education was proved by the returns of Mr. Sandford, showing that out of 3,230 applications for school building grants last year 2,852 were from the Church of England, 82 from the Roman Catholics, 96 from British schools, 96 from Wesleyan, and 73 from undenominational schools, leaving only 30 for all the other denominations put together, clearly proving that the Nonconformists felt that elementary secular education was not their province. They, however, felt none the less strongly interested in religious education, which they did not seek Government aid to support. As to the political aspects of the question, he contended that the payment of fees to denominational schools would be most expensive, while it would be objectionable because the board would have no manner of control over the schools which it subsidised. A Nonconformist deputation which had waited upon Mr. Gladstone contended that the payment of school fees would absorb a large portion of the education rate. The Birmingham Education Society issued tickets for 6,000 children, and the deputation stated that probably 10,000 children could claim from the board the payment of their school fees on account of poverty, but if only 8,000 were paid for the cost would be nearly 4,500*l.* per annum, or a third of the whole rate which the board would probably levy. Mr. Bantock contended that the intention of the Act was that the board should have their own schools for these indigent scholars, and that the work should be done by them, but by the fee-paying system it would be taken out of their hands. What he complained of was, that while the Government cast upon them the responsibility of disbursing public money, it gave them no opportunity of seeing that it was honestly applied. This was unconstitutional, and contrary to every principle of common sense, and he did not think the nation would support it when the people came to see how it operated. But it might be asked, how would religious education be given to these poor-children? His reply was that religious education was provided for in board schools, and on the point as to what kind of school the board should provide, he would say—provide both fee-paying and free schools, but he would allow the masters in their discretion, to admit a certain number of fee-remitted boys in fee-paying schools. Mr. Bantock quoted from a pamphlet by Mr. Benjamin Templar, who has had twenty years' experience of schools, and who, Mr. Bantock said, gives clear proofs that, give the children of indigent parents secular elementary education, and they will naturally go to the Sabbath schools that are open, for religious education. Again, he would remind the board that by the wide diffusion of elementary education by national schools, Sunday-schools would be relieved from the work of giving instruction in secular subjects, and would thus be able to concentrate their energies upon religious teaching. It was said that Roman Catholics would refuse, on religious grounds, to send their children to any school not under the management of members of their own religion. That, he admitted, was the greatest difficulty they had to contend with, but it was replied that the hypothesis of the Act was that during the hours devoted to secular instruction there was nothing in any public elementary school to which any person could have a right to object on religious grounds, and if this was the hypothesis of the Act the objection of a Roman Catholic to send his child for secular instruction to a public elementary school could not be recognised without a violation of the solution which the Act professed to afford of the religious difficulty. He (Mr. Bantock) represented the belief of the party he represented when he said he thought that if this question was not settled in a quiet and amicable spirit of compromise, so that the various parties might be able to work amicably together, it would grow till much larger questions would bring them to a period of great contention and strife.

A letter in favour of the motion having been read from Mr. Rupert Kettle, the Chairman said at the proper time he should propose that no payment of school fees should be made until there is provided a sufficient amount of public school accommodation for the Wolverhampton School District, and that no fee paid by the board shall exceed the ordinary fees charged at the school provided by the board. The board then broke up, the next meeting being for September 15.

British and Foreign School Society.—The Normal College of the above institution, in the Borough-road, is at the present time undergoing considerable enlargement, in anticipation of the increased demand for teachers likely to be created by the action of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, throughout the country.

THE APPROACHING HARVEST.

According to the *Chamber of Agriculture Journal*, 43 per cent. of the returns for wheat report an "average" crop, 54 per cent. "under average," and only 3 per cent. "over average." For barley 60 per cent. say "average," 35 per cent. "over average," and 5 per cent. "under average." For oats 55 per cent. say "average," 27 per cent. "under average," and 18 per cent. "over average." For beans the returns are 59 per cent. for an "average," 34 per cent. "under average," and 7 per cent. "over average." And for peas 58 per cent. of the reports speak of an "average," 36 per cent. of "over average," and 6 per cent. of "under average." It is inferred from these figures that we have an inferior crop of wheat, a very good crop of barley, an average crop of oats, and crops of beans and peas which never promised better, but which, in the case of the former already, and in that of the latter, will most probably before harvest, have disappointed expectations. A wet summer—a cold, wet summer, as we may call that of 1871—is certain to disappoint expectations of seed produce, and that will be our lot this year. Cattle food of all kinds promises to be abundant. Mangolds, indeed, do not prosper in such weather as we have had, but turnips were never better; and grass is plentiful, though hay has been badly made. The wet season is producing its usual effect in an early development of the potato disease.

The *Magnet* says that the effect of the fine weather upon the growing crops has been everywhere apparent, and the grain is rapidly maturing. Harvest operations are making fair progress in Essex, Middlesex, Surrey, Bucks, Berks, and the more southern counties. Rye and oats have been cut freely, and wheat-cutting will soon be in full progress. A sample of new wheat was exhibited at Mark-lane on Friday, but its quality was nothing to boast of. On good soils the crop will be an average, and with a continuance of the present weather the grain will be got in in good condition; whilst from inferior soils the return will be indifferent.

Bell's Weekly Messenger refers to the complaint which is made relative to the continuance of restrictions on the Islington market. It is held that, with Dutch and other imported cattle spreading disease broadcast over the country, and permitted access markets situated like Romford and Southall in grazing districts, the London cordon is a perfect absurdity. The matter is being taken up, not only by the butchers who are excluded, but by the inhabitants in the vicinity of the Metropolitan market, West Smithfield, &c.

Garden Produce of 1871.—In a summary of the horticultural produce of the season, the *Gardener's Magazine* reports a general failure of all kinds of fruits, and a general plentifulness of roots and vegetables. The deficiency of the fruit crop is attributable to the prevalence of cold rains at the time the trees were in flower, damp being more destructive to pollen than a few degrees of frost. In those exceptional cases in which a fair quantity of fruit has been produced the quality is below the average. This has been the case in an especial manner with strawberries, which have certainly not been scarce, and have grown to a good size, but have been wanting in colour and flavour. The Kentish nut crop is reported to be exceptionally good, and of cider apples there appears to be a sufficient production; but nowhere are the trees "breaking down"—with fruit. The continued cold weather, accompanied by excessive moisture, seriously threatens the potato crop, which in bulk is immense, but it is only too likely to be extensively damaged by disease. The potato, our contemporary remarks, is dependent on sunshine in about the same degree as wheat, and in a cold, wet season both these "staves of life" make poor returns for the labour bestowed upon them. It is to be hoped, however, that the weather may yet prove favourable to the ingathering of a heavy produce of roots of all kinds.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

The forty-first annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science was opened on Wednesday, by a meeting of the general committee in the Humanity class-room of the Edinburgh University. Professor Huxley, the retiring president, was in the chair. Mr. Gassiot's magnificent gift of 10,000*l.* for the endowment of the Kew Meteorological Observatory, which owes its present perfect state to the association, was the theme of universal remark. As in previous years, the report of the general committee dwelt at length on the necessity of systematic State aid to science. In the evening the inaugural address was delivered by the new president, Sir W. Thomson, to a brilliant audience in the music-hall. The following digest from a contemporary will give some idea of the general scope of the lecture:—"Sir William Thomson's address at Edinburgh, as president of the Briti h Association, was marked by the enunciation of one of those bold theories with which our scientific men have in recent years been fond of startling the world. As a natural step to his conclusion he reviewed the amazing advance that has been made within the last decade in our knowledge of the sun and stars by means of the spectroscope. Not merely the chemistry, so to speak, of these bodies has yielded its secret to the magical prism, but their whole law of being were now the subject of investigation. Spectrum analysis had disproved the hypothesis that the heat and light of the sun were maintained dynamically by the impact of millions of meteors, for it was shown that long before these bodies could reach the solar surface they must be reduced to vapour by the intense radiance; and it went far to confirm Helmholzt's idea that our great luminary is the result of a grand collision of atoms, and is in course of cooling down. Comets have long puzzled astronomers, but the hypothesis of Professor Tait commended itself to the president as nothing short of certainty, namely, that they were groups of meteoric stones, and gave off light from mutual impact similar to that produced by a heavy shot striking a target. In the same manner there is good reason to believe nebulæ, which the elder Herschel at first suggested were isolated stellar systems like that of which our sun forms a part, are composed. Like the sun, the comets, and the nebulæ, Sir William Thomson assumed the earth to have originated on strictly dynamic principles, and then came to the question how from a red-hot globe it had become what we see. There has lately been considerable heat evolved from the conflicting opinions of scientific men as to the origin of life, one party, led by Dr. Bastian, holding to the principle of spontaneous generation; the other, with Professor Huxley for their prophet, as resolutely contending that dead matter cannot become living without coming under the influence of matter previously alive. The latter view Sir William Thomson adopted, considering it "as sure a teaching of science as the law of gravitation," and proceeded to

show that vegetable and animal life must have been transmitted by the myriads of fragments of solid matter that continually come to us from space, pointing his argument with an illustration of the earth at some future time colliding with another body, and the shock hurling off countless seed-bearing atoms to fructify and populate, it might be, new spheres. Naturally Sir William Thomson was next led to a consideration of the Darwin theory, in which he expressed concurrence, except as regards "natural selection," and, in conclusion, he administered a just rebuke to the materialists who would exclude the Creator from the creation. The address, though not distinguished by great literary ability, will rank as one of the best delivered from the presidential chair, albeit it may form a bone of contention in the scientific world until its principles either become antiquated, or are established on the basis of unquestionable truth.

On Thursday Lord Neaves presided in the section of Economic Science and Statistics; Professor Tait, Mathematical and Physical Science; Professor Andrews, Chemical Science; Professor Geikie, Geology; Professor Allen Thompson, biology; Colonel Yule, C.B., Geography; and Professor Jenkins, Mechanical Science. Lord Neave delivered a very eloquent address. Sir John Browning then brought up the report on the Metric Code, which recommended the permissive legislation of the metric system. Professor Allen delivered an address, as president to the Biological Section, in which he warmly advocated the introduction of natural science into the course of education in schools. In the Anthropological Section, the address was delivered by Professor W. Turner; and a paper by Dr. Beddoe, "On the Degeneration of Races in Britain," gave rise to an animated discussion.

On Friday, Sir John Browning, in the Statistical Section, expressed his regret at the prospect of a protective system in France, and said that the ex-Emperor had recently observed to him that he believed the French people would not allow free trade to be trampled down. Amongst the most interesting papers read were one by Mr. Lockyer, on the sun, another by Mr. Wheeler, on the recent progress of chemistry in America, and a third by Dr. Gainsbury, on the Moabite stone.

At Monday's meeting, it was stated in the Mechanical Science Section that the place in which there is the largest rainfall in the United Kingdom is Skye, near Kendal. In 1861 the rainfall there was 225 inches. Sandy, in Bedfordshire, was said to be the driest place in the country, the average rainfall there being twenty-one inches.

In the afternoon a meeting of the general committee was held under the presidency of Sir William Thomson, at which Belfast, Bradford, and Glasgow severally put in claims for the meeting of 1873. The unanimous choice of the committee fell upon Bradford. Dr. Carpenter was elected president for next year, when the association meets at Brighton.

Many papers were discussed in the various sections of the British Association yesterday, but the department which appeared to attract most attention was that of Economic Science and Statistics, in which Miss Lydia Becker read a paper "On some maxims of political economy as applied to the employment and education of girls." Six other sections sat. The real business will close to-day, but several excursions to places of interest in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh have been arranged for to-morrow.

SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

Mr. Joseph Cooper, of Walthamstow, one of the most persevering members of the Anti-Slavery Society, has recently received from influential persons in America a number of important testimonies respecting the great success that has attended the abolition of slavery in that country. The Hon. Senator Boutwell writes to Mr. Cooper:—"The success of emancipation in the United States has been such as to encourage every Anti-Slavery effort that we can make for emancipation everywhere. How gladly we have followed the improvement and elevation of the coloured people in this land since their emancipation as evinced by their education in schools and their accumulation of money in banks! I am watching their advancement, not only in the common schools, where the first ordinary branches of learning are acquired, but in the *higher seminaries*, where their progress and attainments are not surpassed by any young persons of any nation under heaven. They will soon in this country enter the learned professions, and *achieve distinction in them;* at which time, and only then, our triumphs will be complete. God speed the day of this achievement in every land! I enclose you a report of the Freedman's Bank here, and also a catalogue of Howard University, as illustrating what I have hinted about."

Another senator (Hon. S. C. Pomeroy) writes, on one of the financial associations, sustained mainly by liberated negroes (The Freedmen's Savings' and Trust Company:—"In the six years which have elapsed since this company was organised, more than twenty millions of dollars have passed through its books. I think that eighteen of those have been the earnings of the blacks. Considering the vast population on which we ought to act, this is not a great deal; but is it not really something to be thankful for, that this people—some of them, at least—so long imbruted, so long left to the shambles and the auction-block, have so readily looked out into the open vistas of the better life which liberty had opened before them."

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 9, 1871.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on the second reading of Prince Arthur's Annuity Bill, Lord ORANMORE again expressed his regret at the prolonged seclusion of Her Majesty, in regard to which he said the expressions of public opinion every day became stronger than ever. Earl GRANVILLE bore testimony, from personal knowledge, to the undiminished interest taken by Her Majesty in all Parliamentary and administrative matters at home and abroad. It was to be regretted that Her Majesty did not come so much among us as heretofore, but that was the only reproach that could be brought up against her.

The House of Commons' Witnesses Bill was, after a good deal of discussion, read a second time.

The Ballot Bill was brought up from the Commons and read a first time. Lord GRANVILLE fixed the second reading for Thursday, and Lord SHAFTESBURY gave notice that he should move that the bill be read a second time that day six months, in consequence of the time of the year, and the utter impossibility of now giving it a fair discussion. Their lordships adjourned shortly after eight.

In the Commons, at the day sitting, Mr. WHALLEY excited much laughter by giving notice of his intention to move for a return specifying the religion of the different members of the Cabinet.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in answer to Mr. Bowring, said there was no likelihood of Parliament being prorogued before ample time had been given to the Lords to consider the Ballot Bill, though how long that would be he had no special means of knowing.

On the third reading of the Ballot Bill being moved, Mr. DISRAELI spoke strongly against it, and concluded by condemning the ballot as a retrograde measure not required by the changed political circumstances of the country. After some further discussion, Mr. W. E. FORSTER expressed the conviction that whatever might be the fate of this measure, the ballot before many months would be the law of the land. But he had no doubt that the Lords would give it a fair consideration, not only because of their general mode of conducting business, but also on account of the bill's special interest to the House of Commons. The bill was then read a third time and passed amid loud cheers from the Liberal benches. On the putting of the question a few faint "Noes" rose from the Opposition, but they gave way before the generally affirmative acclamation of the House.

At the evening sitting, on going into committee, Mr. CORRY raised a discussion on the shipbuilding policy of recent Boards of Admiralty.

Mr. NEWDEGATE brought before the House the case of a Protestant lecturer named Mackey, now imprisoned in Winchester Gaol. Mr. BRUCE replied, and, the House having gone into committee of supply on the Naval Estimates, several votes were agreed to for the Marine Divisions.

The Epping Forest Bill was read a third time and passed. Several other bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at five minutes past three o'clock.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

Yesterday the trial of the Communist prisoners was resumed at Versailles. Ferré, one of the accused, denied that he had given orders to set fire to the Ministry of Finance. The jurisdiction of the court was again objected to by the counsel for the defence, but the objection was overruled.

In the French Assembly yesterday the bill respecting the indemnity to be paid to the departments of France invaded by the Germans was adopted. Compensation is to be given for all losses sustained, and a sum of 100,000 francs is at once to be distributed among the most needy.

A proposal was recently made to the French Government by an American company to take the whole of the Communist prisoners as colonists to Lower California. M. Thiers now announces that this proposal is to be submitted to the French Assembly as soon as possible.

According to Dr. Zueler, of Berlin, Asiatic cholera has now entered Germany. During the first three days of August, seventeen fatal cases occurred in Kœnigsberg. The first was of a Polish merchant who arrived at Kœnigsberg from Wirballen. In Riga, seventy-five deaths from cholera were reported between the 5th and 22nd of July.

M. THIERS AND THE POPE.—The *Gaulois* says the Pope's Nuncio had an interview with M. Thiers on Sunday. Monsignor Chigi spoke of the intention of the Pope to quit Rome, and seek the hospitality of Malta or Spain. M. Thiers showed himself decidedly opposed to such a step. "There is," he said to the Nuncio, "a French proverb which declares that he who quits his place loses it. The Pope in quitting Rome compromises the future of the Holy See. His presence at Rome is, at least, an eloquent protestation against what passes there. I have no counsel to give to His Holiness; but were I in his place I would not budge; I would wait."

THE AGINCOURT COURT-MARTIAL.—The court-martial on Captain Beamish, Staff-Commander Knight, and Lieutenant Bell, reassembled yesterday at Plymouth. The evidence of Staff-Commander Faulkner for the defence was chiefly technical, relating to the Admiralty sailing directions, which the witness considered required alteration. He considered St. Roque was wrongly laid down on the charts. This concluded the defence, and the court remained in deliberation for two hours. The court then found the charges proved against all the prisoners; but, considering the extenuating circumstances, only adjudged Captain Beamish and Staff-Commander Knight to be severely reprimanded, and admonished to be more careful in future; and Lieutenant Bell to be admonished to be more careful in future.

ST. JAMES'S HALL SUNDAY SERVICES.—These services closed for the season last Sunday. The Rev. Newman Hall, who preached on the occasion, said that the services had been held on forty-three Sundays; the average offertory had exceeded 10*l*. The rent and expenses of the hall, with printing, had been 470*l*. Contributions had been received for various religious and charitable objects, including schools in South London, aid to the wounded in the war, Mrs. Gladstone's hospital, &c., amounting to about 200*l*., making the total of the money received at the hall nearly 700*l*. The evening preachers had included clergymen of the Established Church as well as Nonconformists, and the services, which will recommence in October, had been of a thoroughly catholic character, and well attended.

THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER. AUGUST 8.—Besides the changes before announced the following revisions have taken place:—The President of the Conference, the Rev. Dr. James, to Stoke Newington; Alfred J. French, B.A., tutor, to Didsbury College; Josiah Banham, to Bowdon; George T. Dixon and Robert A. Bilkey, to Ashton-under-Lyne; Charles Porah and Richard Stevens, to Hyde; John Ward to Rochdale; Wm. C. Kewish, to Bury; Fredk. Woofenden, to Bacup; Buckley Yates, to Leigh; Henry W. Holland, to Leeds, Brunswick; Allen Rees, to Bow, London; Jno. Stevenson, to Cambridge; James Cooling, assistant tutor, to Richmond College; William B. Dennis, Northampton; Edward H. Tindall, Swindon; Frederick Haines, New Mills; William L. Watkinson, Bacup.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Very little animation was observable in the grain trade to-day, and prices occasionally were easier. There was a short supply of English wheat, which sold quietly, on former terms. Foreign wheat was in large supply and limited request, at previous quotations.

Barley met with a slow sale, at late rates.

Malt was dull, but unaltered in value.

The supply of oats was large, trade was inactive, and prices had a downward tendency.

Beans and peas were taken off quietly, at recent values.

Flour was dull and in some instances cheaper to sell.

A volume of sermons by the late Rev. T. T. Lynch will be published in the course of the autumn.

The *Athenæum* states that a translation of Comte's chief work, "La Politique Positive," in four volumes, is in preparation by his English disciples, Dr. Brydges, Mr. F. Harrison, Prof. Beesly, Dr. Congreve, and Mr. H. Dix Hutton. The Rev. G. W. Cox, M.A., and Mr. E. Hinton Jones are preparing a work to be entitled "Popular Romances of the Middle Ages," in which they will endeavour to give, in a popular prose form, some of the earlier metrical romances. Mr. Walter Besant and Mr. E. H. Palmer are engaged upon a joint work on the History of Jerusalem, from the days of Herod to modern times. Mr. Barff, M.A. of Christ's College, Cambridge, has been elected Professor of Chemistry to the Royal Academy.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL.—The distribution of prizes in this important branch of University College was held on Thursday afternoon; Mr. Vernon Harcourt, Q.C., M.P., in the chair. A long list of prizes and commendations was read by the head master, Professor Key, and the proceedings closed with an eloquent address from the chairman. Mr. Harcourt remarked on the pleasure which it gave an overworked pupil of St. Stephen's school to visit an institution in which the hours were not too long, the work hard, it might be, but neither excessive nor fruitless, and in which finally there were prizes to be won. He was glad that in the curriculum of the University College school languages and the classics continued to hold their own, notwithstanding the unusual attention bestowed upon science and "modern" subjects. It had given him special pleasure to present a prize for impromptu speaking, considering the marvellous power conferred by the possession of the faculty which this prize was instituted to educe and to encourage. He next alluded in touching terms to the loss sustained by the college during the past session by the decease, in the fulness of years, of its illustrious President, Mr. Grote, and by the school more immediately, in the untimely death of two of its former pupils who had already, in the earliest years of their manhood, opened up for themselves a career of unusually brilliant promise—Mr. Numa Hartog, Senior Wrangler at Cambridge, and Mr. Trevelyan Goodall, one of the most distinguished among the recent students of the Royal Academy. He concluded by congratulating the school on the fact that its numbers had grown during the last ten years from 300 to 511, and that during the past session alone there had been an increase of no fewer than ninety boys.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT DEBATE: a Full and Revised Report of the entire Debate in the House of Commons on the 9th of May on Mr. Miall's Disestablishment Motion, making 32pp. Price Twopence (by post twopence halfpenny), or twelve shillings per hundred.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1871.

SUMMARY.

THE Queen returns to Windsor early next week, to await the pleasure of Parliament before starting for her Highland retreat. During the past week considerable progress has been made with public business. The Ballot Bill, which had gone through the ordeal of seventy divisions, was yesterday read a third time and passed by the Commons without a division—the Opposition wisely refraining from another exhibition of numerical weakness. Mr. Disraeli, however, took occasion to utter a final protest against a measure which he declares to be unnecessary, the product of Ministerial menace, and the harbinger of national decay. In his studied attempt to prove that the ballot is not demanded by the constituencies, we may probably read the fate of the bill "in another place." To-day the Lords will have the Ballot Bill before them, and the second reading will be moved to-morrow. They have no excuse for not discussing it on its merits, for Mr. Gladstone yesterday announced that the Government will not advise Her Majesty to prorogue Parliament until ample time had been given to the House of Lords for the fullest consideration of the bill. The rumours that it would be met by "the previous question"—a contemptuous mode of kicking out so important a measure—has happily proved to be unfounded. The Earl of Shaftesbury will move its rejection in the usual way, but avowedly on the plea of a fair discussion of its clauses being impossible. Yet their lordships could without any qualms waste a week when Goodwood races were in question!

Though the Ballot Bill is out of the way, there are heavy arrears of business to be got through in the Commons. From ten to fifteen millions of the estimates have still to be voted, and many of the items will excite much bitter discussion. Debates are yet due on the loss of the Captain, the break-down of the projected Berkshire campaign, and the Dublin riot. Apparently we have not yet heard the last of the Army Bill, which the Lords read a third time on Friday amid some parting protests. It has now come down with amendments to the Commons, and Mr. McCullagh Torrens proposes to open the controversy in the Lower House as to the use of the Royal prerogative by moving a resolution against considering any such measure if any of its material provisions "shall have been withdrawn from the judgment and discretion of Parliament by any warrant or proclamation, or act done under the authority of the Crown." While such portentous questions are being raised, the Commons, except those who are tired or highly conscientious, are hastening away to the seaside and the moors.

A debate on the Treaty of Washington was on Friday squeezed in between the discussions on the Ballot Bill. Sir C. Adderley's mild criticism was ably met by Sir Stafford Northcote, who has won great credit to himself by his meritorious services as a member of the Joint High Commission, and who bears emphatic testimony to the friendly feeling of the American people towards England. Sir Roundell Palmer, in an elaborate speech, which dwelt unnecessarily on the incidents of the Alabama's escape, was strong in favour of the new rules relative to neutrals laid down in the treaty. The United States as well as Great Britain is now bound by them, and to secure that, a pecuniary sacrifice on our part is a minor consideration. Mr. Gladstone also pointed out that the consent to refer to arbitration our conduct in the administration of our municipal law, although a stretch of our international duties, was conducive to peace and involved no dishonour. The formal motion for papers, which was only a pretext for the discussion, was withdrawn. Further information confirms the belief that the Canadian Dominion will accept the treaty substantially as it stands.

The bright and summer-like weather which has succeeded the rains and winds that but yesterday threatened the crops, and caused John Bull to grumble with energy, is telling on the corn market, and rejoicing the heart of the farmer. In many southern counties the harvest has begun; in all the rest it is rapidly ripening under an unclouded sun. It is many a year since the country looked so green and lovely in August. We cannot believe that in this case appearances are deceptive. Though estimates of experienced agriculturalists do not hold out the prospect of a full average crop of wheat, we may fairly accept Mr. Mechi's opinion that, taking all cereals and green crops together, the yield will exceed the average. The weather seems to have undergone a favourable change in the nick of time, and apparently there will not be short supplies and high prices of food to check the industrial prosperity, of which the recent Board of Trade returns—showing a wholly unprecedented exportation of British goods—are a remarkable index.

The bitter malevolence of the Fenian journals is the best indication of the success of the Royal visit to Dublin. Fine weather for the most part favoured the Prince of Wales, his sister, and younger brother, and enormous, but friendly, crowds cordially greeted them on every public occasion. But there is a fatality in all Irish affairs. The Nationalists chose this particular season for getting up a demonstration in Phœnix Park on behalf of the remaining Fenian convicts, and the authorities foolishly interfered to prevent it. We should have expected better things of the Lord-Lieutenant and the Irish Secretary, both of whom were parties to prohibiting the meeting. Both sides being exasperated the result was inevitable. On Sunday there was a serious riot in the park. The too-zealous police, in strong force, embittered by the recent assassination of Head Constable Talbot, roughly attacked the people, who in their turn retaliated. Though no lives were lost in this deplorable fray, numbers on both sides were seriously injured. Nevertheless, the Royal visitors were allowed to leave Dublin without any unfriendly demonstrations. Mr. Smyth, M.P., and his fellow agitators have got a new grievance. They can contrast the immunity allowed to the Democrats in Hyde Park with the repressive measures taken in Phœnix Park. A rigid inquiry into this untoward incident may be instituted, but only time can allay the better feelings created by the riot on Sunday last, and the unpopularity of the Dublin police.

M. Thiers's perplexities increase. No one yet seems to have fathomed the extent of the pecuniary liabilities of France. Before the principles on which M. Pouyer-Quertier's extraordinary budget have been settled by the National Assembly, supplementary estimates for the army are announced, and the Chief of the Executive is obliged with great reluctance to charge the National Exchequer with a great part of the cost of the war's ravages in the devastated departments—say twenty millions more. France has still to feed 150,000 Germans on her own soil, though there is hope that before the month is out, another instalment of the war indemnity will be paid, and the army of occupation proportionably diminished. M. Thiers has also on hand some 30,000 French prisoners, who are no less an embarrassment than the Germans. The chiefs of the Commune are now at length being arraigned at Versailles, but for the rank-and-file of the insurgents there is the alternative of pardon or transportation, whichever the Government may choose. It seems quite possible that the mass of them may find a home in the United States—an offer having been made to locate them in the Far West, in the territory of Lower California, where even Communists can find ample room and verge enough if they do not disdain industrial occupation. The provisional state of things in France is not likely yet to cease—the project of formally voting M. Thiers a two years' lease of power having been, for the present, abandoned.

THE TWO HOUSES.

THE Elections (Parliamentary and Municipal) Bill, has been read a third time in the House of Commons, and has been sent up to the House of Lords. We cannot agree with Mr. Disraeli, that it has met with no merely tactical obstruction in the Lower House, but we admit that the bill, although essentially what it was when introduced, has been improved by the efforts of the Opposition. It goes up to the Lords at a more than ordinarily late period of the session. How is it to be dealt with? Several confident replies to this query have been ventured by those who, having no responsibility for the course which their lordships may adopt in any given case, do not hesitate to make their wishes father to their thoughts, and, in a spirit of thorough-going partisanship, to prognosticate the temporary rejection of the measure. They may be more conversant than we can affect to be with the intention of the Upper House. But, in the first place, we imagine that no definite intention has yet been arrived at by the majority, and, in the second place, we are not quite satisfied, even if it has, that it may not, under the advice of the more prudent chiefs of the Opposition, break down in practice. We do not mean to say that we anticipate a favourable treatment of the measure from the patrician assembly. On the contrary, we should regard the chances as three to one that they will refuse to consider the bill this year; but we do not see so clearly as some of our contemporaries profess to do, the grounds upon which the House of Lords can even plausibly justify a resolution to deal with the measure in the manner in which their most favoured friends declare that they will do.

The advanced period of the session at which the bill reaches them is, after all, rightly considered, a plea in favour of its being fairly entertained. Why has it not reached them earlier? On the showing of their own friends, because it has been so elaborately analysed, and so minutely discussed by representatives of the Conservative party in the House of Commons. It is confessed on all hands that it is a measure of great national importance. As such, the Lower House has bestowed upon it extraordinary pains, and has made serious sacrifices of time, labour, and convenience, to perfect its provisions. The majorities by which its principal provisions have been carried have been uniformly large. The third reading has been assented to without a division. No reasonable doubt can exist that, as a whole, it is in accordance with the will of the nation. This, therefore, is a case in which the Lords are not entitled to set their own convenience against that of the public. They are not exhausted by the severity of their foregoing labours. Their legislative occupations have been extremely light. They have generally adjourned in good time for dinner. As compared with the Commons, their exertions throughout the session have been inconsiderable. They can hardly be said to have earned their holidays. They have great privileges, but they hold them as trustees for the public. They are now asked to devote (say) ten days to prevent a terrible waste, both of time and energy, which their refusal to consider this bill would occasion to the other House of Parliament, and it will be utterly unworthy of their exalted position, and of their relation to the constitutional system in which they bear so prominent a part, if they should shirk the use of their legislative functions merely because it would postpone for some days their little-intruded-upon social enjoyments.

Then, again, the subject-matter of the bill sent up to them for consideration, is one which stands specially related to the constitution of the representative House. It does not touch at any point the privileges of the Peers. It does not alter in any way the relations in which the two Houses stand respectively towards each other. We do not agree with those who maintain that it is a question with which the Lords have nothing whatever to do—but it is certainly one with which they would be most inconsiderate to deal adversely with a high hand. The time will come—perhaps it is not very remote—when the constitution of their own House, and its place in the political system of this country, will have to undergo legislative discussion—and it will certainly not increase the indulgence with which their claims will be entertained, should they be so ill-advised as to decline giving the little time and trouble, even at this period of the year, necessary to save the arduous exertions

of the Commons for many weeks past, in a matter affecting the mode in which its own members may be best elected. The Lower House has always been chary of interference with the Upper, and especially in questions relating to its organic structure—and it would be a bad example for the Upper House to set, if it should show itself sensitive only to its own temporary convenience, and arbitrary and obstructive in a question affecting the quality of the people's House.

The Lords may regard the ballot with strong aversion. They have, no doubt, a right to form and to express an adverse opinion on the subject. But, unless they have good grounds for believing that they can, by obstructing the immediate passing of this Government Bill, secure its ultimate defeat, they are not warranted in keeping the nation in suspense for another year, solely to secure for themselves an uncurtailed holiday after a session of almost unexampled idleness on their part. They know well enough that they will have to acquiesce in the measure to which their assent is now asked—and that, whatever course they may now take, they will probably signify their acquiescence within the next twelve months. Why should they widen the breach between the two Houses? What good end will they gain by thwarting the desire of the Commons, by postponing the consideration of the Ballot Bill? We cannot yet believe that they will allow themselves to be so misguided. But before the week is out they will have answered for themselves.

THE LOSS OF THE MEGÆRA.

"The stars in their courses fought against Sisera." If we substitute Mr. Gladstone for Sisera, the same figurative mode of expressing a quick succession of blunders and misfortunes may be applied to his Government. It is not, however, consistent with the philosophy of the present day, to trace unhappy results of this character, even when they occur in clusters, to stellar influences. They rather are brought about, and in the most natural manner, by causes connected with subordinate officials, than by any associated with supernal interference. It would seem as if the present year of Mr. Gladstone's administration was to be signalised by the simultaneous and unexpected manifestation of all the mischievous effects which the general state of the departments is calculated from time to time to bring about. Not only has there been a succession of Parliamentary blunders which has been calculated to place many important classes of Her Majesty's subjects in hostile collision with the Government—not only have important interests been touched and disturbed, and left unsettled, by the restless officialism of the permanent staffs of several departments of Government—but events unconnected with Parliamentary management, seem to conspire to thicken the atmosphere of discredit which just now envelopes the Liberal administration.

The inquiry concerning the grounding of H.M.S. Agincourt had not concluded, when a telegram from Hong Kong announced that the store ship Megæra, destined for Australia, and carrying out 380 officers and seamen, having some time previously sprung a leak which it was found impracticable to subdue, had been run ashore at St. Paul's Island, in the Pacific Ocean, happily without loss of life, but unhappily not without the certainty of exposing those who were on board of her to many days' anxiety, discomfort, and possible peril. Now, the Megæra, although a well-built ship in the first instance (at least according to the state of the art of constructing iron vessels, which was then in its infancy) was twenty-seven years of age when she was selected for the special service in which she has met her fate; was always a slow sailer; had passed her best days; and had been relegated to the bottom of the list of store ships available for use. Before she was appointed to her last trip, several inquiries were made by the Admiralty respecting her efficiency and seaworthiness for the voyage she was about to undertake, and all the officers consulted on the occasion returned satisfactory answers. Nevertheless, in her voyage from Sheerness to Plymouth, and from Plymouth to Cork, she disclosed such defects, both with regard to the state of her hull and to the stowage of her freight—which was far in excess of her then capacity—that passengers, officers, and men alike complained, and many apprehensions were excited at the time that she would come to grief. After being lightened of a hundred tons of her cargo, and patched up where she seemed to be most defective, she had her final orders to depart, and the next news of her received by the public was that she had been run aground at St. Paul's Island, after having run an imminent risk of foundering at sea.

On Monday afternoon Mr. Goschen, now First Lord of the Admiralty, in reply to a question put by Sir J. Hay, gave a detailed account of the facts of the case, as far as they had come within the knowledge of the Admiralty, and asked the House of Commons and the public to suspend their judgment until the affair had been thoroughly investigated. We rely implicitly upon the good faith of the First Lord, and we fully believe that he will not rest content until he has got to the bottom of the case. But it is clear, on the face of the facts already known, that somewhere or other a very heavy responsibility rests. Why this ship was chosen for such a service, and who selected her; why she was despatched from Plymouth with her freight heavily stowed; why she was over-laden, and who was responsible for it; why, when her defects were ascertained at Cork, and when the apprehensions of those on board of her had been so far excited as to have been communicated to the public, she had been retained for the service on which she was employed: these are questions which have to be completely cleared up before the Admiralty will regain the confidence of the British people. Things have happened of late which are awkwardly suggestive of incapacity on the part of the civil administration of both the army and the navy. Both departments, we suspect, have need to be thoroughly overhauled. The presumption is that both might be worked far more efficiently, and far more inexpensively, than they are at the present moment. No special blame, perhaps, attaches to the present Ministers, but we suspect that the permanent heads of departments are usually too strong for their political chiefs. The constituencies will have to put such pressure upon the House of Commons as will overbear official obstruction to needed administrative reforms. Otherwise, our defensive establishments, whenever called into action, will break down as they did in the Crimean war, and expose the country to unthought-of misfortunes.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETING.

Edinburgh has seen many historic gatherings; but never has she exulted in the presence of a more brilliant cluster of intellectual men than have been drawn together there during the past week. The British Association mainly owed its formation to Scotchmen—Robison, Brewster, Murchison, Johnston, and Forbes being properly the fathers or founders of it—and Scotchmen, perhaps with a touch of the clannishness which distinguishes them, still show their deep sense of its importance by taking a very lively interest in the proceedings. The meetings in Scotland have been singularly successful—those at Aberdeen and Dundee succeeded even beyond expectation. It is but right that Edinburgh should in this respect also assert her metropolitan character and traditions. And she has done so worthily. The opportunities offered for investigation of places and objects of interest in the neighbourhood have been manifold; and the spirit of hospitality, if we may credit reports, has been at the same time conspicuously open-handed. It has been for Edinburgh a sort of carnival that suits well with those ancient claims to intellectual dignity which have caused her to be called "The Modern Athens."

The general impression derived from a study of the proceedings of the Association is the tendency of science to push the mystery of life further and further off from the field of actual investigation. In fact, it refuses to entertain mystery. Any theory is better than to admit this ever in the most indirect manner. The question as to the origin of life throws itself more and more forcibly forward; but scientific men get rid of the real problem that confronts them by generalisations that have but the feeble merit of carrying the difficulty only one step further back. The President, Sir William Thomson—one of the most gifted and logically sure-footed of living men of science—in his inaugural address advanced a very original speculation as to the origin of life on this planet. After a very clear and generous survey of the recent progress of scientific investigation, some remarks as to the true work of biological science naturally led him to speak of "spontaneous generation." In this he cannot believe. He holds with Professor Huxley and the rest, that "careful scrutiny has in every case, up to the present day, discovered life as antecedent to life." "Dead matter cannot become living without coming under the influence of matter previously alive." He then asks the question—"How, then, did life originate in the earth, which was in its first stages a heated globe, on which life could not exist? He answers it by supposing that germs were shaken abroad in it by contact with some splinter thrown off in a planetary collision. "When a lava stream flows down the sides of Vesuvius or Etna, it quickly cools and becomes solid; and after a few weeks or years it teems with vegetable or animal life, which for it originated by the transport of seed or ova, and by the migration of individual living creatures. When a volcanic island springs up from the sea, and after a few years is found clothed with vegetation, we do not hesitate to assume that seed has been wafted to it through the air, or floated to it on rafts. Is it not possible, and if possible, is it not probable, that the beginning of vegetable life on the earth is to be similarly explained?"

It is the business of science to exhaust all natural means of explanation before having recourse to any extra-natural ones. It should shrink from facing no problem and should not shirk any facts. But how far does this speculation really help us? Not very far, certainly. The question recurs in all its original force, when we come to deal with the planetary bodies. How did life originate there? Or are we inevitably shut up to the conclusion that natural life has gone on in ceaseless development and transmission from all eternity, so that the idea of a Creator is the merest fiction of the mind? Or can it be that the analogy, which Sir William Thomson permits himself, carries with it a deeper significance than casually appears. "It is as sure that collisions must occur between great masses moving through space as it is that ships, *steered without intelligence directed to prevent collision*, could not cross and recross the Atlantic for thousands of years with immunity from collisions." This seems to us to postulate a sort of chance in order to account for the spread of life according to law, which on the face of it, is not very consistent. Either the world is governed by laws, strict and invariable, or it is not? Under such law there can be no such thing as chance; and if chance in the slightest is postulated then science is a mirage; for, as Sir William Thomson says, "The essence of science consists in inferring antecedent conditions, and anticipating future evolutions, from phenomena which have actually come under observation." But this permits no intrusion of such a thing as the *chance* direction of germ splinters through the air so as to come in contact with globes just ready for them. In fact, the fit direction and the readiness seem to witness to a sort of well-laid design. Sir William Thomson's theory, original though it is, does not tend to satisfy the mind, the more that it is dwelt on.

Sir William Thomson's speculations naturally enough had the effect of making one look out all the more eagerly for any hint of new truth on the field of biology. There was, however, nothing very remarkable in this respect. Dr. Grace Calvert gave an account of some experiments he had made as to germ life in the atmosphere. His conclusion is that germs are necessary to the production of life. "If the white of a new laid egg be mixed with water (free from life) and exposed to the atmosphere for only fifteen minutes in the months of August or September, it will show life in abundance." Several other of his facts were almost equally startling.

Perhaps the most exciting department of scientific study at the present moment is that of spectrum analysis by which the chemistry of the heavenly bodies is being determined. In this department great results have been achieved. In the course of a few years, we will, in all likelihood, be as familiar with the sun and the planets as with our own earth. "Lockyer's applications of the velocity test to the relative motion of different gases in the sun's photosphere, spots, chromosphere, and chromospheric prominences, and his observations of the varying spectra presented by the same, as it moves from one position to another in the sun's atmosphere, and his interpretations of these observations, according to the laboratory results of Frankland and himself, go far towards confirming the conviction that in a few years all the marvels of the sun will be dynamically explained according to known properties of matter." This is altogether one of the most extraordinary of the recent revelations of science, obliterating as it does to a great extent the lines between astronomy and chemistry.

In the Department of Statistics and Social Economy there was a good deal of noticeable matter brought forward, which we would be inclined to dwell on had we but fuller space. Nothing has been more common of late on the part of journalists and others, than to trust too absolutely to the Registrar's returns as finally deciding various points and degrees of public morality. It is very possible to be thus misled. In all such matters there are many elements

which may modify materially the conclusion of the figures, but which it is very difficult to state with clear results. Lord Neave's warning in this respect is as philosophic as it is deeply called for. It is not so much that we are careful to relieve Scotland from a stigma—though why should not justice be done to her?—but rather because a large principle is involved in Lord Neave's words. He spoke thus in his introductory address as President of the Economic section:—

The relations of the sexes constitute a most important branch of economical science, and in no point is information of more importance than where it relates to female purity or to the circumstances affecting marriage. We have now generally a good enumeration of the legitimate and illegitimate births that occur among us, but I wish to point out some of the hazards or uncertainties by which these are surrounded. In Scotland, as a whole, there is undoubtedly a considerable proportion of births that are illegitimate; but the proportion varies much in different localities. Ten per cent is not by any means the highest average overhead; but let us take two districts, A and B, where the proportion is much smaller, say five per cent. in each. What does this indicate? It may proceed from a greater degree of moral purity, as fewer examples of unmarried cohabitation will, of course, diminish the number of illegitimate births. But the small proportion of those births may possibly be produced by a totally opposite cause; for it is equally certain that extreme licentiousness of morals, and specially any extent of professional profligacy among women, has a tendency to diminish the number of children born. So that district A, with a small percentage of illegitimate births, may be a very moral district, and district B, with the same small percentage, may be full of prostitutes and other dissolute women, who, from that very character, seldom or never produce children at all.

On the whole, the British Association meeting has been such a brilliant success as will justify 1871 being marked with a red-letter in its calendar. As the work of the Association is of vast importance to the culture of the nation, we may venture to hope that many more meetings of the same character await it in the future.

MEN AND THINGS IN AMERICA.

(*By a Cosmopolitan.*)

SHAKER MONASTICISM.

About seven miles from Cohoes is the original settlement of the "United Society of Believers commonly called Shakers," where, also, Mother Ann Lee, founder of the sect, is buried. Having read Hepworth Dixon's "New America," wherein he gives much valuable information about these "peculiar people," we had a strong desire to visit them, and accordingly drove out to their village. Arrived at our destination, we knocked at the door of a building which was inscribed with the word "office," and were speedily answered by an ancient Shakeress, who kindly referred us to Brother Ephraim, "the dentist," who, she said, would show us over the place. Brother Ephraim turned out to be a very agreeable old gentleman of about seventy years of age. Seeing that we were much interested, he took the greatest possible trouble to show us all that there was to be seen.

The chapel is a very plain building, with seats at one end for the elders and other officers of the church, and at the other a railed-off gallery for spectators. During the services the brethren sit on one side of the chapel and the sisters at the other. In summer time the services are crowded with visitors desiring to see Shaker manifestations, and we were glad to learn that among them indecorous or unseemly behaviour is unknown.

The dwelling-house of the brethren and sisters is a large building at the end of a sort of square. The basement contains the dining-room, where, at meal times, the brethren have one table and the sisters another. This division of the sexes is carried out in all their arrangements, and is part of their religion. Previous to commencing a meal the brothers and sisters kneel down in their appointed places and silently ask a blessing—in this, as in some other things, resembling the Quakers. The bedrooms were well though plainly appointed.

The outbuildings were the most complete and perfect we have ever seen, and included a laundry (worked by machinery), barns, preserving rooms—where the Shaker preparations of fruit and medicine are made—stables, corn mills, and, in fact, everything required to make the Shakers as independent as possible of the rest of the world. A good school-house for the education of poor children, who are taken in, clothed, and educated by the Shakers, was a noticeable feature. These children may, if they choose, join the community when they arrive at years of discretion, but they are allowed perfect liberty in the matter.

The Shaker preparations are universally esteemed for their purity and excellence. There was much truth in Artemus Ward's remarks to the Shakers:—"My frends, you air neat and tidy. Your lands is flowin' with milk and honey. Your brooms is fine, and your apple sass is honest." The scrupulous cleanliness and neatness which pervade every part of these buildings is admirable, and cannot be too highly commended. In their persons they are equally careful; and though their dress, especially that of the females, is slightly grotesque, there were none of the "long weskits" and "meal bags" Artemus Ward mentions to be seen at our visit. The men were all attired in grey cloth, and the women in dresses of some plain material, and in caps such as Quakeresses used to wear until late years.

The settlement is divided into four groups, or "families," as they are called, standing within a two-mile radius. Each family has its own officers, such as "family deacons," who superintend all the culinary arrangements, and others for managing the farms, selling the produce, &c. The site of the settlement was originally a swamp, but by careful cultivation it has become a fruitful garden. The Shakers believe that "Mother Ann," being persecuted in England, was endowed with miraculous wings, by the aid of which she was enabled to fly over the Atlantic, and finally descended in the midst of what was then a "waste howling wilderness." Gradually the settlement has grown to its present proportions.

Brother Ephraim took great pains to enlighten us respecting Shaker principles. These may be summed up as belief in good farming, the Apostle Paul, and no marriages, but in detail they go further:—

1. Adam and Eve were the types of our Saviour and the Messiah who was to follow.
2. By our Saviour's birth, to use their own words, "the type of Adam was fulfilled."
3. By Mother Ann's birth "the type of Eve was fulfilled," and in the Messiah came, or in other words "the second coming" was realised.
4. The Apostle Paul was a Christian, and he taught that no Christian ought to marry.
5. Christians are free from sin. Marriage may be advisable to those who cannot attain "freedom from sin," but no person living in marriage can be a Christian while so living.
6. Christians ought to "dwell in unity" as one family. Consequently community of goods is a Christian duty.
7. The millennium will be attained by the universal adoption of Shakerism.

Inquiring about the name of the sect, Brother Ephraim remarked, "We were first called Shakers in derision, and got our name as the Quakers and Methodists got theirs. Afterwards we found it convenient to adopt it." Asking what the term meant he said, "Well, if there is anything *in* that wants *shaking out*, it *must* be shaken out."

Brother Ephraim gave us the history of his own conversion. He first heard of the Shakers when a boy of five years old. In a conversation between his father and a neighbour, the former remarked, "If you want good seed, always buy Shaker seed, for it is the best." Afterwards he often thought the Shakers must be very good people, as everybody praised their goods, and he wondered greatly what they were like. Reaching manhood, he gave way for a time to worldly pleasures, but at four-and-twenty began to be anxious about the state of his soul. He tried one religious sect after another, and found they were all lamenting their own wickedness, and offered "no escape from sin." Accident directed his steps to the Shaker settlement, where he was cordially welcomed, and invited to examine their principles and mode of life. He did so, and found that sundry slanders he had heard were false, and after some deliberation he decided to join them. Since then he has lived "a sinless life," and enjoyed perfect happiness. Subsequently his mother, brother, sister, brother-in-law, and two nephews, joined the community. His mother lived five years in the settlement, and often thanked him as the means of her conversion, declaring that "her last days were her best days." His brother is still alive, and remains a faithful member of the flock. His sister and brother-in-law died in full confidence in Shakerism. Forty-five years' experience has only deepened Brother Ephraim's convictions of the truth of the Shaker Gospel, and increased his peace and happiness in living under its influence.

Married people who become Shakers are compelled to live strictly apart; and unquestionably, whatever may be an estimate of Shaker views, there can be no doubt that they are highly moral. On our return we consulted the wife of our bosom as to the propriety of joining the settlement, and she summarily disposed of the question by saying she "didn't want any of that nonsense." We told Brother Ephraim that our experience proved the marriage state to be the happiest on earth, when he replied with unanswerable logic that we "had not tried the Shaker system."

Some years ago we accompanied our friend Mr. George Thompson on a pilgrimage to the Hospital of St. Cross, near Winchester, incited thereto by Washington Irving's account of his own visit. At this hospital an ancient custom is still maintained of giving a glass of beer and a piece of bread to all "wayfarers" who apply for the same. It is a point of religion with the Shakers to exercise hospitality of a yet more generous character. They have a building appropriated in a similar manner to that in which Charles Dickens met the "Seven Poor Travellers" at Rochester. Here a "wayfarer" may rest for the night and obtain refreshment *gratis*. We were sorry to hear that the generosity of the Shakers is often abused by unprincipled vagabonds, who only seek admittance in order to rob their entertainers.

The Shakers affirm that they have no objection to rational recreation. In their sitting-room we found a black board on which were chalked musical notes. The brethren and sisters are fond of music, and we learnt that they are about to use organs in their worship. In the summer time pleasure excursions are got up for the younger members, and they are particularly fond of visiting the mills and manufactories at Cohoes and neighbouring cities, speaking very highly of the courtesy they receive on these occasions. In fact, the Shakers are generally esteemed for their harmless, peaceful, and industrious habits. The proprietor of the "buggy" we hired for our visit remarked, "So you are going to see the Skakers? Well, they are very good people—very good people." We have heard this statement repeated numberless times.

Brother Ephraim was reading a newspaper when we disturbed his afternoon *siesta*. He appeared very well-informed on passing events, and especially deplored the late European war, assuring us that if France and Prussia had known the truth as it is in Shakerism they would never have engaged in the conflict. We found, however, that during the American civil war many athletic young Shakers felt it their duty to go out and fight for the Union. The Shakers have always been anti-slavery advocates, and they claim for Mother Ann "that she predicted the downfall of the 'peculiar institution.'"

Warmly thanking Brother Ephraim for his kind and gentlemanly courtesy, we returned to Cahoes, by no means regretting that we had seen with our own eyes one of the most curious developments of religious faith the world has ever witnessed. Of the honesty and sincerity of the Shakers in acting out their convictions of duty there can be no doubt. Some of their eccentricities may provoke a smile from the "unenlightened," and many of their doctrines may be regarded as pernicious by orthodox theologians, but it is beyond question that in many ways they offer bright examples to others who profess to be far better instructed in the Christian faith. What may be the result of this socialistic experiment none can tell. It has survived many years of obloquy, and has become highly prosperous and money-making. Nowhere else has socialism attained such success, and while the system lasts it deserves the careful attention of social reformers.

We ought to add that we were not allowed to depart without partaking of refreshment for the "inner" man, which was very acceptable after a long and cold drive. The Shakers believe in good living, and all their viands are first-class in quality. Their dietary consists of three meals a day—breakfast at half-past six, dinner at twelve, and supper at six—and it embraces "the best of everything." A bachelor afraid to marry might do worse as far as material comforts go than join the Shakers.

On Sunday a crowded and highly respectable audience assembled in St. George's Hall, Langham-place, under the presidency of Mr. W. Hepworth Dixon, to hear a discourse on the principles of his order by Elder Frederick W. Evans, Shaker, of Mount Lebanon, State of New York. Mr. Dixon, in a few introductory sentences, attributed his being asked to take the chair to the simple fact that perhaps he was the only Englishman in the assembly who had actually slept under a Shaker roof, and had seen with his own eyes the beautiful Eden the order had created. Having a wife and a house full of rosy children, he need not say he was not a Shaker, nor did he know anything of the mystical signs or principles professed by the order. The Elder, a tall man, dressed like a clergyman, spoke with a slight American accent. His lecture extended considerably over an hour and a half, but beyond mentioning that in all things the men and women of Mount Lebanon were equal, it afforded very little detail of the internal life and government of the community. In the course of his lecture he spoke of England as a land of priest-ridden laziness and costly State-Churchism, whose clergy pursued their religion as a trade or profession, and not through spiritualistic dictates. Having entered at some length into the rise and progress of Christianity, dwelling much upon the fact of the Jewish parentage of our Saviour, the lecturer proceed to insist

that the only hope for the salvation of the world was a return to the Mosaic dispensation, and concluded by announcing that Shakerism was nothing more than Quakerism divested of its ordinations relative to the giving and taking in marriage. Amongst Shakers, however, the male enjoyed the female and the female the male in a spiritual sense just as much as in any other community. The discourse was preceded and closed with hymn and prayer.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Second Article.

The International Exhibition has proved a greater success than had originally been anticipated even by the most sanguine of its promoters, despite the many shortcomings and lamentable misunderstandings which characterised its earlier history. It was roughly calculated that could half a million visitors be secured, the experiment—for it could not be regarded as anything else—of an annual international exhibition of art and industry, would have been inaugurated without loss to those concerned. The required number of visitors has, however, been obtained during the first eleven weeks of the Exhibition, and at the close of July the Commissioners found themselves possessed of a surplus of 10,000*l.* Should the popularity of the Exhibition continue during August and September, there will be in all likelihood a clear gain of from 40,000*l.* to 50,000*l.*, after paying all expenses, a circumstance which shows that, so far as this country is concerned, expositions of art and industry have lost none of their olden interest. Cheap excursions from the country have had a good deal to do with increasing the number of visitors, nor must the facilities afforded by the Metropolitan Underground Railways be lost sight of; yet, after making every allowance for these, there is sufficient evidence to prove that the essentially practical character of the Exhibition constitutes its principal attraction. There is less of industrial curiosities, and more of industrial excellence. The principle of selection may have operated harshly on some exhibitors, but it has materially contributed to render the present display in many respects an improvement on most of its predecessors.

We have already alluded to the lessons of the industrial portions of the Exhibition; we will now glance at its artistic features. So far as the arts of painting and sculpture are concerned, little, if any, progress is perceptible. The increased demand for productions of the studio has not been accompanied with a corresponding improvement in taste. The love of art, for its own sake, seems to be fast becoming a theory of the past. The painter has become a manufacturer rather than an artist. He fills in the canvas with landscape and figures at so much the square inch. Even as cheap volumes are prepared at a few weeks' notice, while books which have cost the authors many years of study are comparatively unsaleable, so the more flashy and commonplace emanations of the easel find favour with the majority of collectors, who seem to think that a high price and an expensive frame constitute the principal requisites of a good work of art. Hence we find ridiculously high prices attached to inferior productions, while real works of genius are to be obtained at comparatively cheap rates. The pure and simple is neglected for the theatrical and unreal. This is most conspicuous in the works of French artists. In these the straining after sensationalism is painfully evident, the artist sometimes achieving his object at the expense of good taste, as in Regnault's famous picture of "An Execution in a Moor's Palace," which is absolutely revolting in its details, reminding us more of the hideous daubs displayed outside a showman's caravan than the production of an accomplished artist. The painter has sought to terrify rather than to please; to depress rather than to elevate the mind. But this is abandoning the true aspirations of art. It is walking from the glorious sunlight into melancholy gloom.

Despite the many adverse influences with which art has to contend in this country and in Germany, the natural religious tendency of the two peoples is apparent in many of the works produced by their leading artists. As in French pictures a love of affected sentimentalism and sensationalism prevails, so the paintings of England and Germany are conspicuous by the frequency with which they pourtray incidents of religious or domestic life. German cottage interiors and English rural landscapes have no rivals. They are simply perfect. But when the artists venture on the precincts of history their abilities become wasted. They find themselves in a region where all is false and unreal. The German produces a picture which gratifies the intellect but does not touch the soul. The Englishman gives us a collection of lay figures, jumbled together without taste or order. English historical art is not a thing of which any nation could be proud. We paint the "Finding of the Dead Body of Harold," and marvel that the world refuses to recognise our genius. The German brings skill and learning to his aid, but the multitude fail to applaud him. It is the same with the Swedish school. Modern artists forget that their great predecessors, the Titans of art, bestowed all their care in reproducing the various passions of man, that they spent more time in giving expression to an eye or a lip than is bestowed by many of their modern brethren in elaborating the whole details of a picture. The present has much to learn from the past. The artist has yet to be taught that his mission is something more than that of a mere reproducer of conventional forms and scenes upon canvas.

The Italian school more nearly approaches the ideal perfection of art, but it is marred by a too close emulation of the style of the older masters. So it is with the Spanish school, the productions of which are too frequently deficient in spirit and lightness. The Dutch school errs in a different direction: it is too materialistic. It simply reproduces the everyday scenes of life, without infusing a touch of poetry or elevated feeling into them. The works of the Flemish school are more tasteful, but their realistic tendency is too apparent. The accessories of a picture are considered more important than the principal features. The Belgian school possesses many features in common with the French school, but there is more earnestness and feeling in the more important works. But everywhere the indications of mere mechanical effort are painfully apparent. The heart is not with the hand. Be he Englishman, Frenchman, or German, the one idea of the artist is to make money. We do not blame him for this. He has as much right to amass wealth by means of his pencil, as the cotton-spinner has to pile up a fortune by the sale of yarn. But he possesses no claim to be called a teacher. He cannot claim to be animated by the same feelings which led the artists of old to seek immortality. They worked for fame: he works for bread. Perhaps he is the more sensible and practical of the two; nevertheless, our sympathies incline more to the illustrious dead than the famous living. We may respect Art, but we kneel in reverence to Genius.

CUTTINGS FROM OUR AMERICAN EXCHANGES.

Trades unions have received a rather severe blow by a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. The case is this: John Carew, a freestone cutter of South Boston, and not a member of the Journeymen Freestone Cutters' Association, made contracts to furnish cut freestone for several parties. The association imposed a penalty of 500 dols. upon him because he sent some of the stone to New York to be cut, contrary to the rules of the association. He first refused, but subsequently consented to pay this sum, because in no other way could he get men enough to enable him to fulfil his contracts. Then he sued to recover the money, and though losing his case before the Superior Court, won it before the Supreme Court on an appeal.

Horace Greeley has recently given orders for the employment of women as proof-readers on the *Tribune*, and that they shall be paid the full union scale for such work. In accordance with this order, one woman is already at work, and more will be engaged.

The system of church support by weekly contributions is growing in favour in Massachusetts. Recently a report was made to Governor Clafin, of that State, in which it was shown that five small churches alone increased their receipts seven thousand dollars last year by recourse to this plan. It is found that every member of a congregation is willing to furnish regular contributions in this way, and that it increases the interest in church affairs.

A young lady—Miss J. F. Ripley—has gained the first prize for Greek scholarship in the State University of Missouri; being the first woman who has ever surpassed the male students in such a contest.

One of the bishops of the Episcopal Church has an interesting communication in the *Protestant Churchman*, showing that from 1785 to 1789 the whole American Episcopal Church used a Prayer-book with those omissions in the baptismal office for making which Mr. Cheney has been degraded. These alterations, with others, were made by the General Convention of 1785, with almost entire unanimity; but, on submitting it to the archbishops and bishops of England these dignitaries objected to some of the changes made, particularly to the omission of the Nicene and Athanasian Creeds, and the article "he descended into hell" from the Apostles' Creed. No objection was made, however, to the alterations in the baptismal office. In 1786 the General Convention, at a special session, called for the purpose of considering these English objections, restored the omitted article to the Apostles' Creed and also the Nicene Creed, but declined to restore the Athanasian Creed: and upon the basis of their restoration, the omitted passages not being restored to the baptismal office, the English bishops and archbishops proceeded to ordain the American bishops elect. The Prayer-book remained in this condition for four years. Nine of the present bishops of the Episcopal Church have united in the petition that these messages, which were restored to the baptismal office in 1789, may be again omitted. "Already," says this bishop, "one of the clergy has been ejected from the ranks of our ministry for conscientiously omitting the phrases in question. It is for the Convention of 1871 to decide whether his condemnation and excommunication shall be followed by scores of others; or whether, by a timely concession in the spirit of the wise and saintly men of 1785, peace shall be restored to our distracted communion."

Bishop Whitehouse has addressed a letter to the wardens of Christ Church, Chicago, requesting them, since the church is without a rector, to announce his intention to hold an Episcopal visitation on Sunday, August 13. The wardens replied that the church is still possessed of a rector, Rev. Charles Edward Cheney, that they would gladly see the Bishop among them on the Tenth Sunday aftee Trinity, to administer the Apostolic rite of confirmation, but that since there has been such delay in serving the note, public notice could not be given, and, therefore, "the day assigned (Aug. 13) cannot be canonically appropriated to that purpose, and, moreover, it would be an inconvenient election. Whatever arrangement," they say in closing, "may be made for a visitation at another time, the wardens will take pleasure in affording their rector such assistance in making preparation for it as their office may require." All of which (says the *Boston Congregationalist*) goes to show that there is a vital difference between the wardens of Christ Church and the Bishop of Illinois as to what constitutes a minister's "good standing," and that the parish over which this independent rector presides are in no wise disposed to forsake him in the stand he has taken. The conflict seems to broaden.

The Christian Moral Science Association in America has come to grief. The committee have been investigating its finances. They have, according to the *Congregationalist*, decided on allowing Dr. Cather his travelling and other expenses for some ten months of labour, amounting to 2,050 dols., and also of compensating him for the same at the rate of 2,500 dols. a year, "making with the allowance of some small receipts from England, a gross expenditure of just 4,000 dols." Having "audited" this little bill and found it correct, the melancholy discovery was made that all funds in the hands of the treasurer would be exhausted in meeting these indispensable payments, leaving a sum still due to Dr. Cather of nearly 1,000 dols. On this our Boston contemporary remarks:—

> Truly we do not know at which to wonder the most, the coolness with which this little bill was presented by Dr. Cather, or the good-natured meekness with which it was approved by the committee. . . . . We see it stated that he is now on his way back to England. Shall the lasting dishonour rest upon the Christian moral scientific public of American of leaving his modest bill unpaid? The Alabama claims are nowhere as an offset to this claim. Lump Dr. Cather's bill and the Rebel Cotton Loan together, and we are faced by a tremendous pecuniary obligation. Oh for another Joint High Commission!

Harvard College, Massachusetts, is frequently described as a Unitarian institution; but the *Nation* proves the description erroneous. Of the 608 students, only 233 are registered as Unitarians, and the remainder as 150 Episcopalians, 111 Independents and Presbyterians, 35 Baptists, 18 Methodists, 12 Universalists, 10 Swedenborgians, 7 Roman Catholics, and 32 as singular or undefined. In fact, the students represent very fairly the religious condition of the community from which they are drawn.

The returns of the United States census of 1870 have been revised and corrected, and the result is that the aggregate population of the country is announced as being 38,549,987, of whom 33,581,680 are whites; 4,879,323 coloured; 25,733 Indians; 63,196 Chinese; and 55 Japanese. The census only extended over the organised territories of the west, a fact which accounts for the small number of Indians reported, the greater part of the aborigines not being enumerated.

Various towns in Massachusetts, where heretofore there has been a complete prohibition of liquor sales, have recently been voting whether the sale of malt liquors shall be permitted. There are 342 towns altogether, of which 242 retained total prohibition by declining to vote at all, and sixty-one upon a vote decided against allowing the sale of malt liquors, while twenty towns, among them Boston, voted to permit the sale. In two towns there were tie votes, so that the sale was prohibited according to the provisions of the law.

A simple fact (says the *Boston Congregationalist*) shows that there are a large number of girls in the cities out of employment. A Boston gentleman advertised that he wanted two or three girls to do some light, easy work. When he arrived at his store on Monday morning, he found sixty-four candidates for the place; on Tuesday there were 240; and on Wednesday thirty applications further were made. And yet, not one of these girls would accept a situation in a kind family to do easy housework. We have no tears to shed.

Literature.

"PRIMITIVE CULTURE."*

Mr. Tylor's thesis at first view seems only a great paradox. He has written a really remarkable work to prove that human progress in regard to beliefs and the common substratum that underlies them is, after all, something of a delusion. Man does not much advance in his essential conceptions of the unseen and the spiritual; he only modifies and adapts and changes. The primitive men, having got clear hold of the distinction between body and soul, solved the problems of human existence in almost as decisive a form as they are likely to be solved by mortal creatures here below. In one point of view, there is a thread of pessimism run through the texture of Mr. Tylor's argument; although, it must be admitted, that it comes out most powerfully when he is most earnestly struggling to do the savage races what he conceives to be simple justice as against several missionaries and travellers. By a wide circle of carefully gathered facts, he attempts to rebut the idea that any race of savages have been altogether void of some notion, more or less clear, of spirit and of God. He deals very severely with Moffat and others for their assertions on this score, finding that in the very same breath with the assertions, they quote words and terms that directly give them the lie.

Thus, it is seen that Mr. Tylor is no great boaster about human progress in general, and that, in opposition to some of the ethnologists, he declines to regard the early races of mankind as simple animals, in order that strong points may be made in favour of later civilisation. He would neither agree with Whately nor with Sir John Lubbock. Our primitive ancestors were not mere savages without soul, or aspiration after anything higher than the gratification of the appetites, nor can we, on the other hand, claim to have grasped all the truth where they failed. Such passages as this are common:—

"Do the Red Indian medicine-man, the Tartar necromancer, the Highland ghostseer, and the Boston medium share the possession of belief and knowledge of the highest truth and import, which, nevertheless, the great intellectual movement of the last two centuries has simply thrown aside as worthless? Is what we are habitually boasting of and calling new enlightenment, then, in fact, a decay of natural knowledge? If so, this is truly a remarkable case of degeneration, and the savages whom some ethnographers look on as degenerate from a higher civilisation, may turn on their accusers, and charge them with having fallen from the high level of savage knowledge."

This passage is not a bad index to the general spirit of the book. Although some justification for statements like these may be found in Mr. Tylor's professing to study the matter from a purely natural or scientific, or what may be called positivistic, point of view, his bias is, we fear, distinctly against allowing to supernatural revelation any distinct place or influence in the development of man. He regards the outcome of the religious instinct as a merely natural development. Now, granting that, from the first dawn of man's intelligence, there has been a gradual unveiling of spiritual truth, does this necessarily and absolutely conflict with the idea of miraculous inspirations? The Apostle Paul, for example, did not deny to the natural revelation all proper authority. He rather held that men had failed to walk faithfully by the dim light which this natural revelation supplied, and that, therefore, God supplemented this light by a more direct unfolding of the source from whence it had sprung. St. John, again, speaks of the "light that lighteth every man." Mr. Tylor seems sometimes to be driving at Scripture ideas when he is strongly supporting Scripture. The Bible claims only the inspiration which reinvolves natural revolution most faithfully in its own first purer sanctions. It is now, accordingly, a very difficult thing to separate between the two; and, indeed, in our idea, it becomes more and more impossible, even scientifically, to exhaust the facts without reference to the supernatural, in some form or other. The influence of revelation has been such that it has given quite a new colour to natural religion, in which its original features are, if not lost, so transfigured as to be hardly distinguishable. It is, therefore, scarcely fair to isolate and to compare such exceptional developments as spiritualism, in their lower and less accredited forms, with various manifestations of early religious tendencies, and to hint, as Mr. Tylor does, that we have in such things even "fallen below the "high level of savage knowledge." It is true that near the end he thinks it needful to enter a caveat in the following terms, but the very need felt is something of a support to our view:—

"The intellectual rather than the emotional side of religion has here been kept in view. *Even in the life of the rudest savage, religious belief is associated with intense emotion, with awful reverence, with agonising terror, with rapt ecstasy when sense and thought utterly transcend the common level of daily life.* How much the more in faiths where not only does the believer experience such enthusiasm, but where his inmost feelings of love and hope, of justice and mercy, of fortitude and tenderness and self-sacrificing devotion, of unutterable misery and dazzling happiness, twine and clasp round the fabric of religion. Language dropping at times from such words as soul and spirit their mere philosophic meaning, can use them in full conformity with this tendency of the religious mind, as phrases to convey a mystic sense of transcendent emotion. Yet of all this religion, the religion of vision and of passion, little indeed has been said in these pages, and even that little rather in incidental touches than with purpose. Those to whom religion means above all things religious feeling, may say of my argument that I have written soullessly of the soul, and unspiritually of spiritual things. Be it so: I accept the phrase not as needing an apology, but as expressing a plan. . . . The almost entire exclusion of ethical questions from this investigation has more than a mere reason of arrangement. It is due to the very nature of the subject. To some the statement may seem startling, yet the evidence *seems* to justify it, that the relation of morality to religion is one that only belongs in its rudiments, or not at all, to rudimentary civilisation."

And here we humbly think is the element which detracts from the value of a truly great work. In what way does fear in its operation on the primitive man manifest itself? Surely first of all in determining conduct. Mr. Tylor admits that a main constituent of early religion is an ineffable fear; if, then, it be admitted that fear in any way determines conduct, there must be a distinct relation between morality and religion. It is only a figure of speech to say that this emotion, this fear "transcends the common "level of daily life:" it but transcends daily life to direct and colour it all the more effectually. Mr. Tylor is surely thus excluding from the problem elements which are most necessary to be taken into account, and openly recognised; we fancy he errs very much in the same way as did Comte in the instance to which Mr. Tylor himself thus eloquently refers:—

"One remembers Comte starting in an account of astronomy with a remark on the necessary limitation of our Knowledge of the stars; we conceive, he tells us, the possibility of determining their form, distance, size, and movement, whilst we should never by any method be able to study their chemical composition, their mineralogical structure, &c. Had the philosopher lived to see the application of spectrum analysis to this very problem, his proclamation of the dispiriting doctrine of necessary ignorance would perhaps have been recanted in favour of a more hopeful view."

We need a kind of spectrum analysis to give us a report of the moral and emotional elements in religion before we can regard the problem as fairly faced and exhaustively stated.

Animism is the name which Mr. Tylor gives to the doctrine which it is his aim to demonstrate as existing through all the various developments of man's moral and religious sense. Animism, in a word, is the doctrine of separate souls. The first stirring in man of the religious sentiment was the discovery that he had a soul —something wholly different from the body, and endowed with possible existence apart from it, although in many cases when the idea was closely analysed it was found that, strictly, the soul was regarded as only being a finer, more rarified sort of body. In its full development Animism includes the belief in controlling deities and subordinate spirits and in a future state, these doctrines practically resulting in some sort of active worship. The similar nature of soul and other spirits is one of the common places of Animism. "It seems as "though the conception of a human soul, "when once attained to by man, served as a "type or model on which he framed not only "his ideas of spiritual beings in general, from "the tiniest elf that sports in the long grass up "to the heavenly Creator and Ruler of the "world, the great spirit." And, inasmuch as the idea that "admission to the happier region "as depending on the performance of religious "rites and the giving of offerings, seems "scarcely known to the lowest savages"—the inference is that the earlier stages of this animistic religion were the purest. There is much in the theory itself to criticise and to object to; but what will, undoubtedly, be most valued by general readers are the collateral theories of "survival" and "revival," which are followed out with very patient research and nimblest intelligence. The most modern forms of superstition find their prototypes in the very earliest; the waves that wash away the deposits of myth and fable and folklore seem after long circuit to bring them back and leave them ashore again almost intact. Nothing is but what, in very slightly varied form, has been before. But if this is so, the creative energy must have had a start—must date from some distinct moment of time, and to say that now it has no real ground of exercise is to assert in other words that something final and satisfactory has in some way been at length attained for humanity; or else there exists somehow one great original, of which there are but broken reflections—an idea of which Mr. Gladstone has made much in his Studies on Homer.

The most interesting portion of Mr. Tylor's book—and it is a truly interesting one—is the body of facts which he has so patiently gathered. The best passages taken by themselves look like short articles from a lighter miscellany rather than parts of a solid scientific treatise. And these, too, are not by any means rare, and yet unity is seldom sacrificed. With Mr. Tylor speculation is always well subordinated to fact and continually tested by it. This, for example, is one of the passages which we have in our eye; our readers must judge its bearing to the leading principle of Mr. Tylor's scheme from what we have said:—

"The maxim, 'a hair of the dog that bit you,' was originally neither a metaphor nor a joke, but a matter-of-fact recipe for curing the bite of a dog, one of the many instances of the ancient homœopathic doctrine, that what hurts will also cure; it is mentioned in the Scandinavian Edda—'Dog's hair heals dog's bite.' The phrase, 'raising the wind,' now passes as humourous slang, but it once, in all seriousness, described one of the most dreaded of the sorcerer's arts, practised especially by the Finland wizards, of whose uncanny power over the weather our sailors have not to this day forgotten their old terror. The ancient ceremony or ordeal of passing through the fire or leaping over burning brands, has been kept up so vigorously in the British Isles, that Jamieson's derivation of the phrase, 'To haul over the coals,' from this rite appears in no way far-fetched. It is not long since an Irish woman in New York was tried for killing her child; she had made it stand on burning coals to find out whether it was really her own or a changeling. The English nurse, who says to a fretful child, 'You got out of bed wrong foot foremost this morning,' seldom or ever knows the meaning of her saying; but this is still plain in the German folklore rule, that to get out of bed left foot first will bring a bad day; one of the many examples of that simple association of ideas which connects right and left with good and bad respectively. 'To be ready to jump out of one's skin,' is now a mere phrase expressing surprise or delight, but in the old doctrine of Werewolves, not yet extinct in Europe, were men who are versitrelles or turnskins, having the actual faculty of jumping out of their skins, to become for a time wolves. To conclude, the phrase 'cheating the devil,' seems to belong to that familiar series of legends where a man makes a compact with the fiend, but at the last moment comes off scot-free by the interposition of a saint, or by some absurd evasion, such as whistling the Gospel he has bound himself not to say, or refusing to complete his bargain at the fall of the leaf on the plea that the sculptured leaves in the Church are still on their boughs. One form of the mediæval compact was for the demon, when he had taught his black art to a class of scholars, to seize one of them for his professional fee, by letting them all run for their lives and catching the last—a story obviously connected with another popular saying: 'Devil take the hindmost.' But even at this game the stupid fiend may be cheated, as is told in the folklore of Spain and Scotland. The apt scholar only leaves the master his shadow to clutch as the hindmost in the race, and with this unsubstantial payment he must needs be satisfied, while the new-made magician goes forth free, but ever after shadowless."

In the development of man's religious instinct, myth soon comes to play a very marked part. It lies in the very nature of language that it should do so. And yet when we are told that the "language of civilised men is but "the language of savages, more or less im-"proved in structure, a good deal extended in "vocabulary, and made more precise in the "dictionary definition of words," it does seem strange that it has so ceased to yield itself to the myth-making process as in earlier times. But Mr. Tylor indirectly renders a reason:—

"Language there is no doubt has had a great share in the formation of myth. The mere fact of its individualising in words such notions as winter and summer, cold and heat, war and peace, vice and virtue, gives the myth-maker the means of imagining these thoughts as personal beings. Language not only acts in thorough unison with the imagination whose product it expresses, but it goes on producing of itself, and thus, by the side of the mythic conceptions in which language has followed imagination, we have others in which language has led, and imagination has followed in the track. These two actions coincide too closely for their effects to be thoroughly separated, but they should be distinguished as far as possible. For myself I am disposed to think (differing here from Professor Max Müller's view of the subject) that the mythology of the lower races rests especially on a basis of real and sensible analogy, and that the great expansion of verbal metaphor into myth belongs to the more advanced periods of civilisation. In a word I take material myth to be the primary and verbal myth to be the secondary formation."

We have seldom read a work that carries along, on its train of thinking, a solid burden of research and instance with so much ease and grace. It deserves to take rank with the works of such men as Darwin and Max Müller.

* *Primitive Culture; Researches into the Development of Mythology, Philosophy, Religion, Art, and Custom.* By Edward B. Tylor, author of "Researches into the Early History of Mankind." In two volumes. (John Murray.)

*RAMBLES ROUND LONDON.**

One of the most delightfully surprising books

* *Saturday Afternoon Rambles Round London: Rural and Geological.* By Henry Walker, Author of the "London Saturday Half-holiday Guide." (Hodder and Stoughton.)

we have ever read was that one of Leigh Hunt's called "The Town." How pleasantly the old man gossiped about the nooks and corners of London, gathering up sunny reminiscences in most out-of-the-way places; with what naïve delight he took us by the arm and whispered to us concerning the famous persons who once had joyous quarter in now dim and drowsy courts and alleys; how here was a famous tavern and there a rendezvous of roysterers, whose genius, seized hold of by fame, seems even now to proclaim something of their gay rakishness as we pass the places which they frequented. And never to be forgotten, surely, is his touch about the London trees. He tells us that till recently there was no point in the City from which one could not, in summer, get a glimpse of a green tree! Think of it, in London, the mistress city of the world! Nothing is more remarkable than the way in which we despise or overlook what is near to us. We hurry away to catch a look of distant lands and far-off scenes, and pass by beauties on every hand in our daily walks to and fro on our business. The pressure of circumstances has done much to change the City during recent years—to make it more matter-of-fact, of course; but within a few miles from the Bank, at almost any point, there are scenes such as are almost unmatched elsewhere. In this regard residents in London are singularly fortunate. Mr. Walker has done for these suburban retreats of the present day, very much what Leigh Hunt did for the interesting points in and about the City a quarter of a century ago. It is high praise of his book that at so many points it made us think of Leigh Hunt's. It is written with much ease, and yet has a touch of enthusiasm that never once violates good taste; the flavour of a true love of nature asserts itself throughout, and yet all is so kept in proportion that we can never complain of a very common fault on this class of books — *over-muchness*; and besides all this, there is fair infusion of scientific information which never becomes heavy or pedantic in the communication. Mr. Walker has clearly written *con amore* —the one condition of success in such an undertaking.

Mr. Walker, of course, had a special object in view. It was to show the masses, now set free on the Saturday afternoons, how they might make the very best of their holiday. If we are not much mistaken, others beside the working classes may get valuable hints as to days of enjoyment, which may save them many tedious hours by rail in toilsome search of the picturesque and new. The book contains only 148 pages, but in it we are led, in a series of walks, through Hornsey, over Hampstead Heath, through Kensington and Battersea, and the other metropolitan parks; roam over the hills and heaths of Surrey, in the course of which we sit under the Harcombe Beeches, and admire the yews at Hambledon Churchyard; loiter beside the Burnham Beeches; ramble through Kent, and examine chalk formations, and get rapturous over more stately trees; and with our guide we then excavate the Thames, and carefully examine its geology. With this book in his hand, a man, however little he may previously know of London, will contrive to spend a healthy, happy afternoon, and that, too, without much outlay. Like Leigh Hunt, Mr. Walker is happy in his descriptions of trees. His love for them seems at once tender and intense—his descriptions of the yews and beeches and aspens are tinged with something of poetic feeling. Space will not permit us to give extracts. But this description of the aspen is so good, and the cause of the trembling in its leaves so nicely explained, that we must make room for it:—

"The peculiar foliage of the aspen puts us in the track of the explanation [of the movement of the leaves] It presents no masses of shadow for the painter to deal with, and is, indeed, one of the least umbrageous of trees. With the least wind it becomes transparent to the light of the sky behind it, which, as we view it, looks like a bright and twinkling nebula. And now pluck a leaf, that you may see the cause of the ceaseless agitation in the leafy community that dwells aloft. The stalk of the aspen, unlike the stalk of the elm and other leaves around us, as it enters the leaf, is compressed laterally. It is also a long and slender stalk, so that the leaf hangs dangling from it (like the hand from a weak wrist). With no rigid support from the stalk, the leaf becomes the sport of airs impalpable to other trees. Hence, then, the incessant motion common to all the poplars, but special to the aspen poplar. . . . The aspen is a scarce tree about London, but its fellow-poplars, which share with it the sensitiveness to the least wind, are very common. The grey abele and the black poplar abound in surburban grounds. The Canada balsam poplar (well known to microscopists who practise 'mounting') is also common. It may be known by its great triangular leaves, and the powerful balsamic fragrance exhaled from its charming buds. In the spring we find its catkins of snow-white down strewing the suburban highway, and looking like cotton pods."

We hope Mr. Walker's book may find a ready public; we are sure purchasers will find it well worth its price—half-a-crown.

*THE GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPHY.**

Nothing in the future is likely to play a more important part in "the story of our lives from "day to day" than the telegraphic system. We all owe more to it, during recent years, than we are at first thoughts inclined to believe. It has done much to double the influence of the press; to make union and co-operation easy; and in some respects it has trebled the worth of all practical activities. We are brought so much nearer to all that we have an interest in, that nothing can properly be said, in the old sense, to be distant. Those who have hitherto been inclined to run down all Government interference with private enterprise, must have experienced a considerable shock to their convictions when they found that Government had proved itself able to reduce the price of telegraphic messages by about one-half. The author of "The Queen's Message" has certainly done a service by publishing his very handy manual, which gives all information needed by those who use the telegraph. Here we have a succinct summary of the improvements that have been effected; suggestions as to how the public itself may prevent the recurrence of errors by a very little care; and all needed directions to enable each person readily to avail himself of the advantages held forth. "Some of the more immediate results [of the "transfer of telegraphs to the Government] are highly interesting and important. "For instance, the 2000 telegraph offices which "existed before the affiliation of the system "with that of the Post Office, have been "increased to 4000, and the rates, which varied "from one shilling to three shillings in Great "Britain, from three shillings to six shillings "between Great Britain and Ireland, and were "fixed at even higher sums for messages to the "Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, have "been reduced to the uniform scale of one "shilling for twenty words, altogether irrespective of distance. Stated briefly, therefore, the change amounts to this, that double "the accommodation has been given at half the "price!"

The general counsel given is this:—

"Every individual, if he is wise, will always keep a supply of shilling stamps and telegraph forms by him for use on occasions of emergency. Or, better still, he will supply himself with a book of fifty ready stamped forms, which he will be able to obtain from any postmaster at the net price of 2*l* 10*s*., *i.e.*, one shilling each. . . . . It is worth noticing as showing the greater confidence reposed in the postal than in the railway system of telegraphy, that only 9 per cent. of the whole number of messages forwarded are handed in at railway-stations. . . . . For the resident population of towns and villages, where the alternative of a postal and railway telegraph office presents itself, the former is, for a variety of reasons, the preferable means to use. It has more direct means of communication than the railway office—its wires being devoted solely to the messages of the public, are less frequently blocked with a pressure of work, and its staff is, for the most part, better trained and less liable to commit the blunders for which messages having passed over two or more systems are conspicuous."

Some of these blunders are very laughable: as, for example, that in the case of the message of a gentleman who had telegraphed to his brother in the country, to send a *hack* to meet him at the station. The signal for *h* is four dots, and the instrument sent only three dots, which form the signal for *s*; and when the gentleman arrived at the station he found a *sack* waiting for him! No doubt, to his chagrin. But had the word horse been used instead of hack, the mistake could not have happened; and the public are directed always to use the word with which there is the least likelihood of confusion; and now, when telegraphy is so cheap, to guard against elisions of words—a custom which the dear telegraphy induced, but which led to many errors.

There are now, it seems, no fewer than 370 separate offices in London from which telegrams may be forwarded—the uniform rate now *including* delivery all within the metropolis. The head-centre of the whole system is the house in Telegraph-street, which is graphically described by the writer in *Bentley*, who is evidently not a casual, but one who is in daily familiarity with the place and the system. All information about instruments, circuits, "transmitters," "keying," and so forth, will be found here set forth in a most attractive manner. Everything technical is popularly explained, so that a careful reader would, after perusal, be almost as intimate with the place and the system as though he were a clerk in it. We cannot afford further space for detail, but close by an extract describing the *modus operandi* of that wondrous invention, the pneumatic tube system:—

"When Telegraph-street desires to communicate with an 'out' station, the message or messages (already packed in a round tube-like box covered with felt so as to nicely fit the tube) are placed in the mouth of the pipe; an electric signal is given, which rings a bell at the distant office, and warns the clerk that a 'carrier' is coming; pressure is applied by a sort of lever arrangement in the hands of a lad in attendance, and, before you have time to realise the different operations thus described, the return-signal is received that the swift messenger has reached his destination. The same preparatory operation is necessary when the 'out' station wishes to communicate with Telegraph-street, and when the 'carrier' has been placed in the mouth of the tube, and the required signal given, suction is applied to the pipe by our ever-alert messenger boy; and, before we have quite prepared ourselves for the result, a dozen messages are dropped from the magic aperture with all the ease and grace imaginable. In this way messages are exchanged between the offices of the Anglo-American and Indo-European Companies and Telegraph-street, and between the various departments of the building itself. A pipe of a new description, iron instead of lead, similar to those of the system in operation in Berlin, has recently been laid down between Telegraph-street and Charing Cross, by way of the General Post Office and Temple-bar; and it is contemplated, we understand, to carry it on to the House of Commons. Much interest attaches to the successful working of this tube, which, when completed, will be the longest in existence in this country, and will present the novel feature of having several stations 'in circuit' upon it. On this account it is necessary to work the tube in such a way as to avoid its becoming blocked, and so as to enable the different stations to arrest the progress of 'carriers' intended for them. The system of working will be best understood if we compare it to the 'block' system used on certain railways, no carrier being allowed to enter a section of the tube unless that section is clear. To carry out this arrangement, Tyer's patent system of block signals is in use, and the St. Martin's-le-Grand Station may be said to be the 'Clapham Junction' of the line. Here the 'up' and 'down' carriers are arrested, and switched on to their respective lines, after having been further charged with any message which may have originated at the General Post Office since the last train set out on its journey. The saving in skilled force through substituting this tube for the wire circuits previously in use is stated to be twelve clerks; and the opportunity is perhaps one of the best that could have been found for testing a most interesting and valuable adaption of the pneumatic system."

* *The Queen's Message: or, Twenty Words for a Shilling.* (Nimmo.)
Telegraph Street. Art. in Bentley's Magazine for July.

BRIEF NOTICES.

At Last; a Christmas in the West Indies. By CHARLES KINGSLEY. With Illustrations. In two volumes. (London: Macmillan and Co.) All readers of Mr. Kingsley will remember how full a knowledge he shows of the West Indies, their geography and history, and with what enthusiasm he is fired when he alludes to these islands and the Spanish Main. He says in this book, "From childhood I had studied "their natural history, their charts, their romances, "and alas! their tragedies; and now, at last, I was "about to compare books with facts, and judge for "myself of the reputed wonders of the earthly Para-"dise." This extract explains the title of these two volumes, which is, like a good deal more in Mr. Kingsley's writings, autobiographic. These two volumes are deeply interesting; the naturalist or the student of scenery will find them even fascinating. The thorough enjoyment with which Mr. Kingsley throws himself into what he describes, and the broad sympathy which enables him to enter lovingly into almost every phase of human life, communicate themselves to the reader, and he goes through the book with a swing. The botanist especially will find interest in these pages. The trees and plants seen are not only named but described also; and that wonderful Western tropical forest scenery, of which Mr. Bates has told us, is analysed and depicted from various points till by help also of the illustrations, the reader is able to conceive its character. Mr. Kingsley saw everything *couleur de rose*. Hospitably welcomed everywhere, he has nought but good to say of the inhabitants of the islands he visited, especially of Trinidad. Occasionally his characteristic reverence for the English gentleman, including himself, as the highest specimen of God's noblest work, is obtruded in a way more befitting a gent than a gentleman; but again the unpleasant effect is removed by his genial admiration for coolies and Indians. Mr. Kingsley speaks highly of the working of the coolie system in Trinidad, but he lived with the governor of the island; we remember his sympathy with the late Governor Eyre and his admiration of high-handedness, and wonder how far his testimony is to be accepted. One sentence we do not like. Mr. Kingsley speaks of an old negro who "was happy enough, "he said; but I was told that he had to endure much "vexation from the neighbouring negroes, who were "Baptists, narrow and conceited; and who—just as "the Baptists of the lower class in England would be "but too apt to do—tormented him by telling him "that he was not sure of heaven, because he went to "church instead of joining their body." Mr. Kingsley's conspicuous fairness in other instances leads him to qualify any censure he may have to pass on sets of people from whom he is separate; we wonder he has not added to his parenthetical clause here that Episcopalians, not only of the lower, but also of the higher class, many educated clergymen included, annoy those who do not go to church, by dooming them to "un-"covenanted mercies." But these are but slight defects in a charming book. We have but to add that Mr. Kingsley has some very wise remarks as to the origin of Fetishism, and that the few references to

Natural Theology and the origin of life are, as might have been expected, thoroughly good.

Concerning Earthly Love, &c. By A Country Parson. (Dublin: Moffat and Co.) We do not know whether the author of these poems is the celebrated A. K. H. B., or whether his earliest *nom de plume* has been audaciously appropriated. A certain affectation in titles, in readiness of expression, and a complacency often carrying off with an air commonplace thought, remind us of the Scotch parson who so long tried to pass for an English one. Let us also add, we are reminded of him by the general purity of sentiment and Christian feeling of these poems. But for the name on the title-page, however, we should not have thought of A. K. H. B. in connection with this volume. Many of these poems are echoes of Tennyson, and of these we cannot speak highly. Some of the simpler lays are touching and truthful; even these are not great poems but they are purely human. Here is a sweet little melody:—

LITTLE MARY.

"Where is little Mary? Sitting
In the leafy arbour there,
And the birds and bees are flitting
Round her in the summer air.
And she bends above the holy
Book that rests upon her knee,
Pausing oft to whisper lowly:
'Jesus died, and died for me.'

Where is little Mary? Straying
By the river, up the wood,
Walking gently, never playing,
As a child like Mary should.
Now her cheek is pa'er, thinner,
Clearer than it used to be,
And her spirit breathes within her:
'Jesus, come and live with me.'

Where is little Mary? Lying
Weak and broken—ah, they say
She is lying there and dying,
And she cannot pass to-day.
And her mother ever near her,
As a mother loves to be,
Often in the hush can hear her:
'Thou art come, and come for me.'

Where is little Mary? Sleeping
Where the sleepers ever sleep,
Far beneath the voice of weeping
In those chambers still and deep.
Where is little Mary? Singing
Where the singers ever sing,
And the holy harps are ringing,
In the presence of the King."

A BUNDLE OF MAGAZINES.

Strahan and Co.'s Monthlies.—It is astonishing how the publishers manage to turn out, month by month, such a large amount of literature of superior quality. It often reaches the highest mark; it never falls very far beneath it. And variety, too, is thoroughly studied. no less than suitability to different audiences. The *Contemporary* addresses itself to the more learned and thoughtful; yet it never lacks some seasoning of the lighter and more tasteful. This month, for instance, we have a very readable sketch of Walter Savage Landor, appreciative, yet discriminating. Mr. Hewlett is not a blind eulogist, though he has a very open eye for the good points. Were it not here and there his points want clearness (as for example, when he says that the infusion of Landor's own personality into his conversations, does not detract from their dramatic truth), we should say that the note of finality was to be caught here. Lady Pollock's article on the "French Comedy," too, is brisk, and conveys a good deal of information pleasantly. Mr. Odger, in his article on "The Land Question," urges that all accumulation of land in the hands of a few is only evil, and in a moderate tone urges means by which the many bad results may be modified. He agrees with John Stuart Mill that Parliament might fix the value of land, but goes further and demands that the land as the property of the nation be restored to the nation. For this purpose, as one of several possible schemes, he proposes that the land taxes should be raised from 1s. in the pound to 4s.—what they were at the close of the Revolution in 1668—and that from this a fund should be formed to buy up the land for the nation as it came into the market. Some rearrangement of the laws as to land property becomes clearly imperative. Father Dalgairns on the "Bearing of Infallibility on Religious Truth," is able but self-confuting; and Professor Milligan and the Bishop of Gloucester are, as is to be expected, solid and learned. Professor Frohschammer on "Optimism and Pessimism" scarcely brings us so much of new as might have been expected. *Good Words* is varied and attractive. After the fiction, which consists of four more chapters of Miss Saunders's powerfully written "High Mills," and five more chapters of Miss Edwards's "Sylvestres," the most noticeable contributions are Mr. Hogg's interesting sketches of the three new German reformers, Dr. Döllinger and Professors Fredrich and Huber; "Expression in Nature," by the Hon. and Rev. W. H. Lyttelton, which is full of insight and poetic sympathy; "The Religious Aspect of History" by Dean Stanley, which urges once more an old idea of his as to the identity of secular and sacred history; and "Maria S. Rye," by William Gilbert, in which we have a very good account of a very enterprising and remarkable woman. And we should not forget to mention Hawthorne's "Notes in Italy," which are delicate and simply charming. Mrs. Fyvie Mayo and Mr. Robert Buchanan contribute characteristic poems. In the *Sunday Magazine*, Professor Blaikie gives some further American jottings—the description of a factory, the Pacific Mills, at St. Lawrence—being very interesting. He also has some good remarks on American colleges. "A Tea-party in a Workhouse" is a lively sketch, just a little overdone and forcedly facetious, as these things tend to be. "The Story of South African Missions," and "A Sunday in the Waldensian Valleys," are both graphic and readable, though different in style. "The Story of the Mine" advances, and is striking, though jerky and affected here and there; while the short story, "The Margaret Ann," is as tender and touching as Mrs. Henry Wood can be in such short stories. Altogether these are excellent numbers of good magazines.

Macmillan has more variety, and is of lighter texture than usual this month. "Patty" is clear and full of character, and goes on cleverly. We are now at one of the deepest points of interest. Mr. Stopford Brooke's "Descriptive Poetry of Chaucer" is singularly good; but he is too determined to reduce the poet to strictly serve a critical purpose. Even Mr. Matthew Browne admits that Chaucer "could not but be meditative at "times, as if a field in autumn were *conscious* of the lights "and shades cast upon its bosom by the clear blue sky "and the blown clouds between." "A Week in the West" is smart and readable, and promises well. "Marie of Villefranche" is a story of the recent war, but oppressively painful. Leslie Stephen is capital on "Scrambles among the Alps." The other articles are all good, though rather more after the solid order.

The *Victoria Magazine* has a special purpose, which tends to make it heavy; but Miss Faithfull, in her paper on "Woman's Work," shows skill in light and attractive writing. Swiss travel is overdone; but "Notes of a "Swiss Tour" are not wanting in fresh touches here and there. The dialogues are racy, and give a sense of reality. The rest of the articles are mostly in the magazine's own special subjects, and here and there might provoke argument; only in this place we have not the needful space to pursue it to any profitable results.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* has another of Mr. Cowden Clarke's papers on the comic writers of England—Addison and Steele being this time the theme. The contrast between the two is well brought out. Addison, with all his humour, was a little of a martinet, and Steele had none of it. The contrast sums itself up in the anecdote of Addison keeping his friend Steele under arrest for debt, *not to indemnify himself, but to teach the thoughtless man economy!* The paper on "The Scott Cen- "tenary" gives a good picture of Scott at his desk, and in his home. The other papers are good, but rather more after the ordinary type of *Gentleman's Magazine* article.

The *People's Magazine* is strong in its fiction and its sketches of persons and places. "A Stedfast Woman," a very clever, quiet, domestic story, is brought to a close in this number. "A Three Days' Ride in Nor- "way" is good, and so is the sketch of John Gilbert. "Angle Talk" is capital, though the parson is hardly "wily" enough for the working man. The whole number is good.

The *Family Treasury* has not fallen off under Mr. Arnot's editorship. The papers are light and varied, and well chosen for family reading. Mr. Hunter's article on "Atheism," Miss Whately's sketch of "The "Reformation in Bohemia," and Dr. Thomson's article on "Modern Jerusalem," seem to us the most noticeable in this number.

The *Sunday at Home* has a very good biographical notice of Dr. Tristram, the well-known naturalist of the Holy Land; an excellent article from Dr. Roberts on "The Gospels and Modern Criticism," and a very closely compressed essay on the "Life of David as seen "in his Psalms," by the Rev. Alexander MacLaren. The "Page for the Young" forms a feature which is well kept. Mrs. Prosser, in "Under the Mulberry," can be humourous without being broad.

Our Own Fireside has an excellent story—"Margaret's Choice" and besides its "Pleasant Readings," and "Columns for Young Men," which are uniformly worthy of being read—it has now and then capital character-sketches, as in this number, on "Mrs. Hannah "More and her Sisters," by Mrs. Clara Lucas Balfour, it has an article on Sir Walter Scott, and gives an excellent portrait of the novelist.

Golden Hours keeps well up to the day. We have in this number two papers calculated to inform as to the condition of the agricultural population—Mr. Heath's "Talks with the Sussex Peasantry," and another instalment of "Out of the World." "The Triumph of "Berlin" is light and chatty; and for sea adventure we have Lieutenant Low's "Pirates of the Persian Gulf." Mr. Page's "Riverside Rambles" supply popular science very pleasantly; and the author of "Mary "Powell" writes a very graceful and interesting story.

The *Leisure Hour* is specially great in biography, which, when well done, is "perennially interesting to "man." Here we have a sketch of Scott and some of his unpublished letters; some chapters more of Mr. Timbs's autobiography; and a sketch of Sir William Thomson. Nor is science forgotten; we have "Sketches of the Geological Periods as seen in 1871;" and an account of the "Banyan and Peepul Trees of India." As for travel, we have Mary Howitt's account of Rome in 1871; and all this combines to make a very readable number.

Happy Hours is strong in fiction, having three stories going on at once; but they are all wholesome and almost as interesting as wholesome. The *Children's Hour* is well kept up; and the miscellanies are clearly well selected. Some of the little poems are sweet and true.

The *Literary World*, as it appears week by week gives an excellent *résumé* of literary affairs, and a better magazine could scarcely be imagined to give those who have not time to read the books a sort of bird's-eye view of the book world. The epitome of the books and the extracts given are worth much, though it was but a sort of index.

We now come to a group of what are more or less theological magazines representing various sections of the Christian Church. The *Christian Observer*, conducted by members of the Church of England, has several articles calculated to be useful to those interested in the topics. The Eccle- "siastical Polity of the New Testament" is thoughtfully reviewed, and on the whole favourably, the writer agreeing with Dr. Jacob in his views as to the Sacramentarianism of the day, which are adverse. "Reasons for Returning to the Church of England" is likewise discriminatingly dealt with. There is also a very good article on the "Use and Abuse of Music in Wor- "ship." The *Christian Witness* has a second eloquent "Homily on Charity" from the pen of Dr. Enoch Mellor; and an essay on "Difficult Texts of Scrip- "ture," by Dr. Gowan. This is a solid magazine, which, however, does not spurn a lighter article, as in this case. "Irish Experiences Fifty Years Ago," which contains some anecdotes of Dr. Urwick, and continental scenes and incidents, "suffice to witness." The *Baptist Magazine* has a very excellent sermon by the Rev. T. M. Morris on the "The One Cross," "The "Three-fold Crucifixion." and a concluding paper on "Constantine the Great"—very readable, as were the former. "The Missionary Intelligence" is evidently careful and complete. The *Scottish Congregational Magazine* scarcely allows scope for articles any way exhaustive; but its essaylets are always thoughtful. A series of essays on "Advisory Councils," by the Rev. David Arthur, are very good. "One good turn "Deserves Another" has a touch of humour; and the sketch of Kitto for the boys is capital. The *United Presbyterian Magazine*, in addition to its heavier matter, has another instalment of "Notes of a "Tour in the East," on Jerusalem, which is readable, and a little sketch of "Skye" which is too short. It gives very good notices of new books, though there is a tendency to look from a special point of view. The *Sword and Trowel* contains a deal of good, smart, sensible writing, and is always very orthodox. "The "Last Days of Calvin" is graphic and interesting. The editor, Mr. Spurgeon, is very severe on literary ministers, in his article, "Use the Pen." "Good men "could do far more service for God and His Church by "their pens if they would write less and write better. "They flood our second-rate magazines with torrents of "very watery matter; their style is slipshod to a slevenly "degree; their thoughts are superficial; their illustra- "tions hackneyed; they weary were they mean to win. "Let such brethren take time to mend their pens; the "world will continue to rotate upon its own axis if we "do not see their names next month at the head of an "article." Very like Mr. Spurgeon, this!

The publications of the Sunday School Union are well suited for their purpose. A glance at the *Sunday School Teacher*, the *Biblical Treasury*, *Notes on Scripture Lessons*, are enough to convince us of their extreme suitability to all who engage in the work of teaching. The sketch of Dr. Arnold, and "The Value "of Five Ministers," in the *Sunday School Teacher*, are worthy of a place in more pretentious organs.

Messrs. Cassell are literally indefatigable. Their publications come forth in a continuous stream, and all of them have a value. The *Technical Educator*, of which the ninth part is now before us, seems carefully got up, with many designs and diagrams. It cannot but be useful to a large class of young men who want to advance themselves in their business. Drawing, Design, Civil Engineering, Building, Telegraphy, with hundred other subjects, come in for their share of attention. The *Household Guide* is truly a *sariorum*. It gives instruction in cooking, sewing, gardening, domestic mechanics, and, in fact, in every subject that the housewife most needs to know. It is a vast repository of information, the illustrations are good, and the price 7d.—most astonishingly low. The *Illustrated History of the War Between France and Germany*, is a powerful narrative, with here and there picturesque bits of description. The engravings are first rate, more especially the portraits, some of them of the German officers being exceptionally strong and fine. We should think this work would have a great sale.

Blackwood comes out, as was fitting in this month of the Scott centenary, with a sketch of Sir Walter Scott, done in its best style. Sir Walter was a man after Blackwood's own heart, identified with the generation in which "Old Ebony" exercised commanding influence, and with the principles to which, through evil report and good report, he has maintained an honourable fidelity, and the tribute here paid to his character and genius is natural and just. The "Financial Condition

"of France" is treated with fulness and ability, the writer maintaining that, heavy as the burden she has to bear, her resources are fully equal to it. We are glad to welcome Cornelius O'Dowd again with his lively rattle and thorough-paced old Toryism, which is too entertaining and extravagant to be offensive. *Blackwood*, of course, does not like the Ballot Bill, but he presumes too much upon our credulity when he asks us to believe that it is only patriotic feeling that would lead him to oppose a measure which would really operate in favour of his party.

Fraser has an æsthetic paper on the "Art Season of 1871," a curious but interesting sketch of John Asgill, and his notions on the cowardliness of dying, and a pleasant account of "Rambles on the Wye," by Patricius Walker. But it is on graver subjects, such as the "Defence of Canada," "Great Britain Confederated," and our "Future Naval Battles," that *Fraser* employs his strength, and for our own part, we feel that he has not thereby improved his character. The article, however, "Concerning John's Indian Affairs," contains matter deserving the thoughtful attention of all who are interested, as all ought to be, in our future relations to our great dependency. The paper on the "Campaign of 1859, 1866, and 1870-71," throws a good deal of light on recent continental history. A Vicar's account of "Paris just before the End," gives a favourable view of the Commune from one who cannot be suspected of prejudice.

The *Cornhill* has also a sketch of the Commune, a graphic and life-like picture evidently, from the pen to which the *Cornhill* has so often been indebted for its remarkable sketches of Continental politics. We cannot say, however, that we are pleased with this paper, "In "Consule Julio." There were better traits in the Commune then are here developed. The sketch of "Jane "Austen" is beautiful, and is one of the gems of a very capital number.

St. Paul's has a story of the late war from Katherine McQuoid, simple, touching, and life-like. Matthew Browne's second paper on the "Literary Life," Colonel Yule's account of "Cathay," and Miss Haddon's extremely practical and suggestive article on "Nursing, "as a Profession for Ladies," are the most noteworthy features of the number.

Law Intelligence.

OVEREND, GURNEY, AND CO.—The arguments in the suit brought by Mr. Peek against the directors of Overend, Gurney, and Co. (Limited) were brought to a conclusion in the Rolls Court on Thursday. Lord Romilly, having intimated that he would reserve judgment until Michaelmas Term, adjourned his court over the long vacation.

JUST PENALTY.—In the divorce suit, "Milne *v.* Milne and Fowler," Lord Penzance on Friday gave judgment, ordering Mrs. Milne, against whom a divorce had been obtained, to pay to her husband out of her separate estate a sum of 500*l.* a year towards the maintenance and education of the children of the marriage, besides disallowing the marriage settlement which gave the lady 1,500*l.* a year.

IMPORTANT TO RAILWAY TRAVELLERS.—A case of some importance to travellers by the Metropolitan and District Railways was before Mr. Mansfield at Marylebone on Friday. Mr. Philip John Moore, of 11, St. Mary's-road, Notting-hill, was charged with not paying the excess fare demanded by the Metropolitan Railway Company because he had alighted at an intermediate station, instead of travelling to the place to which he had booked. Henry Claridge, a ticket collector at the Edgware-road station on the Metropolitan Railway, stated that on the previous evening the defendant gave him a ticket issued at the Mansion House, and entitling the holder to travel to Notting-hill-gate. The witness demanded 2d., the excess fare, which the defendant refused to pay. He gave his name and address as Charles Knox, of 28, Cornwall-road, Notting-hill, which the witness had since ascertained to be incorrect. He then refused to give up the ticket, and was given into custody. Cross-examined, the witness said that the defendant did not offer to give up the ticket if he got a receipt for it until a policeman came. Several persons advised him not to give up the ticket without a receipt. Edgware-road was an intermediate station between Moorgate-street and Notting-hill. The defendant might have gone on to Notting-hill in the train by which he had travelled. It appeared that he had taken a return ticket from Notting-hill-gate to the Mansion House, and, by an arrangement made between the Metropolitan District and the Metropolitan Railway, he might, if he preferred, return to Notting-hill from Moorgate-street instead of from the Mansion House. Mr. Mansfield said that the case had been decided in a superior court. The company had no right to demand the excess fare, and the defendant would accordingly be discharged.

Mr. Browning's new poem, "Balaustion's Adventure," is dedicated to the Countess Cowper.

On Saturday morning a model of a statue, to be erected to the memory of Oliver Cromwell, was placed *pro tem.* in Parliament-square, Palace-yard, immediately opposite the principal entrance to the House of Commons. The statue, when executed, will be eight feet in height, and promises to be a fine work of art.

Miscellaneous.

Hampstead Heath is to be transferred to the Metropolitan Board of Works at a cost of 45,000*l.*, to be improved for the public benefit.

During the month of July the quantity of diseased and unwholesome fish seized and destroyed by the officers of the Fishmongers' Company was 47 tons 7 cwt.

The *Daily News* states that meetings are to be held during the recess in most of the great towns of England to demand a more equitable distribution of electoral power in proportion to population.

John Crossley and Sons (Limited) have declared an interim dividend for the past half-year of 15s. per share, less income-tax, being at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum. A dividend of 2s. 6d. in the pound to the creditors of the Northern Assam Tea Company (Limited) has been announced by the official liquidator.

The foundation-stone of the Chelsea Embankment was laid on Saturday by Colonel Hogg, chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works. The contract has been taken for 133,000*l.* This new section will reclaim nine and a half acres from the river, and will be three-quarters of a mile in length.

LECTURES AT ST. PAUL'S.—During the last two months of the year the experiment of an evening lecture to the young men of the city is to be made in St. Paul's Cathedral. During November Canon Gregory proposes to give four lectures on the importance of social questions, and in December Canon Liddon intends to explain one of St. Paul's Epistles.

REGISTRATION OF VOTERS.—In boroughs, claims must be made on or before the 25th inst.; notices of objections on or before the 20th of August in counties, and the 25th in boroughs, and the courts of revision must be held in counties between Sept. 20 and Oct. 31, and in boroughs between Sept. 15 and Oct. 31.

THE WEATHER.—Summer has set in with great fierceness. From the report of the Meteorological Department it appears that yesterday morning was the hottest of the present summer thus far. Two or three British stations reported a temperature of 70 deg. at eight o'clock. In London a stiff easterly breeze prevailed, and the thermometer at eight o'clock indicated only 65 deg.

MODEL DWELLING HOUSES.—The report of the Improved Industrial Dwellings Company, founded by Alderman Sir Sydney Waterlow, shows that 195,779*l.* has been expended in the erection of nearly 1,000 tenement dwellings in the metropolis, and states that 200 more such buildings are in course of erection this year. The usual dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is again recommended.

THE COMMUNIST REFUGEES.—The following notorious members of the Commune are said to be in London:—Félix Pyat, Bergeret, Serailler, Vaillant, Parent, Mégy, Rousselle, Le Mossu, Forestier, and Lessagary. Lefrançais and Vésinier, who were supposed to be shot, arrived in London, says the *Vérité*, from Switzerland, two days ago. The widow and children of Dombrowski are also here. As for Cluseret and La Cécilia, there is no doubt of their being in New York.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for July have been issued. The total value of British imports was 31,251,153*l.*, being an increase of 6,561,013*l.* as compared with July, 1870. During the seven months of this year the imports amounted to 186,507,467*l.*, or an increase of 22,979,122*l.* over the corresponding period of last year. The exports were valued at 19,817,991*l.*, being an increase of 2,361,237*l.*

THE HABITUAL DRUNKARDS BILL.—Dr. Dalrymple, M.P., who leaves England for Canada and the United States on the 24th inst. for the purpose of observing the means adopted in that quarter of the world for the treatment and reformation of habitual drunkards, expects to be able to collect a large body of information on the subject, and may not improbably induce some American gentlemen to give evidence on the question next session before a select committee of the House of Commons.

THE CHOLERA.—According to a Berlin telegram the cholera epidemic has crossed the Prussian frontier. The first case has occurred at Konigsberg. Up to the 25th July there had been 3,125 cases in Moscow, of which 1,428 proved fatal. An Order in Council has been published in a supplement to the *Gazette*, prohibiting any master of a ship in which a person has been attacked with or died of cholera from bringing the vessel into port until he has destroyed the clothing and bedding of those who have been so attacked.

REFORMATORY AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.—The report of the inspector appointed to visit the certified reformatory and industrial schools in Great Britain states that on the 31st of December, 1870, there were in Great Britain 64 reformatories:—In England, 32 Protestant and 4 Roman Catholic for boys, and 12 Protestant and 3 Roman Catholic for girls; in Scotland, 7 Protestant and 1 Roman Catholic for boys, and 4 Protestant and 1 Roman Catholic for girls. The total number of young offenders in these schools was 5,301 boys and 1,261 girls—total, 6,562. There were 91 industrial schools certified on the 31st of December, 1870, containing 8,280 inmates.

THE EAST AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.—The select committee of the House of Commons on this subject, which was moved for by Mr. Gilpin early in the session, held its final meeting on Thursday, and decided on its report. The evidence taken before the committee abundantly confirms the statements made by the member for Northampton in moving for it. The recommendations of the committee include the appointment of additional consuls on the East Coast of Africa, the stationing of more ships of war there at certain periods of the year, and the settlement of captured slaves in Zanzibar, under stipulations which will ensure their personal freedom.

MR. FAWCETT, M.P., AND HIS ADMIRERS.—On Thursday a deputation of ten members from the Brighton Radical Association waited on Professor Fawcett, M.P., at his residence, 42, Bessborough-gardens, to present him with a handsomely-framed address, written on vellum, for his "manly and noble conduct in voting against Princess Louise's dowry." The deputation were received by Mr. and Mrs. Fawcett, Sir C. Dilke, and Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Taylor. The services rendered by those gentlemen in the House of Commons were warmly alluded to by several speakers, and suitable replies having been made, the deputation retired.

THE NEW ACT ON DOGS.—The Act to provide further protection against dogs has just been printed. Stray dogs may be detained and sold, or destroyed. Dangerous dogs may be destroyed. The local authority may, if a mad dog or a dog suspected of being mad is found within their jurisdiction, make, and when made, vary or revoke an order placing such restrictions as they think expedient on all dogs not being under the control of any person during such period as may be prescribed in such order, throughout the whole of their jurisdiction, or such part as may be prescribed in such order. Penalties are to be imposed, and the provisions contained in the Act as to the detention and sale or destruction of dogs found straying on the highway shall apply to dogs found at large in contravention of an order made. The statute is to be cited as "The Dog Act, 1871."

THE PROPRIETARY SCHOOL, GRAVESEND.—Three pupils of this school (Nonconformist) have lately distinguished themselves at examinations. One, G. C. Henderson, has passed in Honours at the Matriculation Examination of the University of London, having, out of 626 candidates, obtained the tenth place; the subjects in which he passed were Greek, Latin and French, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, Grecian, Roman and English History, Ancient and Modern Geography, the English Language and Chemistry. Two others, A. E. Maylard and H. J. M. Todd, have passed the Examination in General Subjects at the Royal College of Surgeons, Maylard having passed also in the Honour subjects—Mechanics, French and Chemistry, and Todd in Chemistry. It is noticeable that all three passed in Chemistry, and also that at the last Cambridge Local Examination for Seniors another pupil, Acworth, was one of the only two who, out of seventeen candidates, passed in Chemistry.

LONDON AND COUNTY BANK.—At the half-yearly meeting of the London and County Bank, held on Thursday, the report was adopted, and the usual dividend of six per cent. with a bonus of three per cent., free of income-tax, being at the rate of eighteen per cent. per annum, declared. The net profits for the six months ending the 30th June last amounted to 90,100*l.* 16s. 8d., and after payment of the dividend there will be a balance of 4,449*l.* 17s. 4d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account. On the debtor side of the balance-sheet the sum due for customers' balances, &c., is stated to represent 14,505,287*l.* 15s. 2d., and that for liabilities on acceptances, covered by securities, 2,640,138*l.* 5s. 9d. The creditor side shows—Cash in hand and at the Bank of England, 2,130,797*l.* 4s. 3d.; cash placed at call and at notice, covered by securities, 2,131,464*l.* 11s.; Government, guaranteed, and other stocks, &c., 1,545,867 3s. 3d.; discounted bills, &c., 10,061,582*l.* 2s. 2d.

THE TREATMENT OF FARMERS IN WALES.—The following story is vouched for by a "Cardiganshire Elector" in the columns of the *Daily News*, and it is another striking illustration of the necessity for the ballot:—"Two estates on which tenants were refused their farms are in Chancery, and the injunctions for dispossession are alleged to have been issued by that august court. Last year there were five cases of dispossession on one of these estates, In March notices were served upon the tenants, with assurances that it was simply the usual step attending valuation. In the course of the summer the advance in the rents was announced, coupled with a wish that the tenants should proceed with their farming operations as usual, inasmuch as they were to have the first offer. Within some six weeks of Michaelmas a message was sent round that the court had instructed the receiver that these five farms were not on any terms to be relet to the old tenants. They were therefore compelled to sell by auction and leave their farms, without a farthing of compensation for labour and capital invested in the soil. Of these five, four had voted for the Liberal, and the fifth had refused to vote for the Conservative candidate."

TRAMWAYS.—Speaking at the meeting of the London Tramways Company, held on Friday, Mr. Mundella, M.P., referred to the popularity of this means of street transit. He felt convinced that local trade would increase with the extension of the lines, and that tramways would tend to improve the thoroughfares of the metropolis. Notwithstanding the opposition which had been lately raised against them, he had no doubt of the ultimate success of tramways. It was stated that in two or

three weeks the Greenwich line would be completed to Westminster and Blackfriars bridges, and the Clapham and Brixton line, which now ran only to Westminster-bridge, would be brought into connection with Blackfriars. The line to Walworth-road and Camberwell was nearly ready for opening to both bridges. On the lines to Brixton and Clapham, which were alone completed, the net profits for the half-year had been equal to 12 per cent. per annum on the capital expended on them, without allowance for renewals. The directors proposed to pay out of the earnings of the past half-year an interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the capital called up. The chairman (Mr. A. W. Young, M.P.) said they had carried 1,609,669 passengers, which showed that the London public would patronise tramways.

The Bank Holiday on Monday was very generally observed in the City. The Government offices remained open, but all the warehouses and offices of public companies, the Royal Exchange and Lloyd's, and nearly all the retail shops in Cannon-street, the Poultry, and Cornhill, were closed. At the West-end only a few shops were shut. At the East-end many of the manufactories were closed, and several of the large employers of labour who give their work-people an annual "treat" engaged fields in which the workmen, with their wives and families, were entertained and amused with outdoor sports. More than 10,000 Odd Fellows of the North London District of the Manchester Unity went down to the North Woolwich Gardens to take part in a fête held for the benefit of the widows and orphans of deceased members. Great numbers of people left London for the seaside and elsewhere by excursion trains, while trains from the provinces brought up a crowd of sight-seers to town, who helped to fill the principal exhibitions and places of amusement in the metropolis. At Manchester the banks and the Stock Exchange were closed, but it was by no means a general holiday, and the industrial classes generally were at work as usual.

The Aristocratic Road to Ruin.—A writer in the *Court Journal* gives the following story:—"I am very sorry to be compelled to allude to one unfortunate phase of the season just ending. For the last three years the steady members of a very exclusive club not more than a hundred—miles, shall I say, or yards?—from the corner of St. James's-street, have been complaining strongly about the high stakes that are played for in the cardroom; but without success. Each year the play has become more and more terrific, and this season certainly a dozen men have been ruined within its walls. Among them is a young baronet from the land of hops, who traces his ancestry back to the days of Earl Godwin, who received his final *coup* less than a month ago, when, in a desperate attempt to recover his previous losses, he contrived to lose 22,000*l.* at a sitting. There is, too, another and sadder story from the same place, of a young man not overburthened with means, but of a very good family, who had taken a very high degree at Oxford, and gave promise of fulfilling a worthy career. After fluttering round for some time, he was drawn into the vortex, and was cruelly pigeoned, not only of every penny he possessed, but of nearly all the small fortune possessed by his mother and sisters, who too chivalrously surrendered their means to save his honour. But so deeply has he felt his loss that he is now in a lunatic asylum."

A Surprise at Night.—The *Standard* tells an amusing story of the "Surprise and Capture of a Volunteer Camp." The 2nd Battalion of Herts Volunteers have been in camp for a week in Panshanger Park, the seat of Earl Cowper, and Captain Cass, of the 9th Herts (Ware) Corps, having decided to give his men an insight into the duties of night service, had them encamped on Tuesday night on his grounds at Presdales. They were entertained with becoming hospitality, after which the sentries were posted, and, everything being made secure, those not on duty turned in to rest, and the officers, including the adjutant, adjourned to the house of their captain for billiards. It was not, however, to be a sham encampment for night duty, and whilst all was going on peaceably, and in fancied security with the 9th, another body of the Hertford volunteers, under the command of Captain Commandant Hawkes, was threatening an attack, which shortly afterwards placed the camp at its mercy. Notwithstanding the sentries, Captain Hawkes succeeded in approaching the camp within a few yards before he was discovered, and when the guard was called out, it was found they had no ammunition. They were unable, therefore, to resist the enemy, and were made prisoners on the spot. The officers, alarmed at the firing, rushed to the camp, only, however, to share the fate of the men. "The surprise of Presdales" was complete, and it was accomplished in the most gallant manner without the loss of a single man on the part of the attacking force. We are told that the officers of the 9th were lost in amazement, and were chagrined at such a result. They were wise men, however, and laughed at the joke.

A World's Prison Congress.—Last autumn a National Prison Convention, attended by statesmen, prison governors, and philanthropists from all parts of the United States, was held at Cincinnati, and on its successful termination it was resolved to take measures for convening a World's Prison Congress for promoting reforms in criminal discipline, to be held in London the first fortnight in June, 1872. The proposal has received the decided approval of the United States Government, and, in accordance with a resolution of both House of Congress, President Grant has signed a commission, accrediting the Rev. E. C. Wines, D.D., secretary of the American Prison Association, to represent the United States Government at the said convention, and to assist in making the needful arrangements. The Hon. Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State, and the various foreign ambassadors resident at Washington have also furnished Dr. Wines with recommendatory letters to the respective Governments of other nations. He has just arrived in England to solicit the co-operation of the British Government, and of associations interested in reformatory and penal discipline. The Social Science Association have at once appointed a provisional committee of three gentlemen (Mr. Frederick Hill, for eighteen years inspector of Scotch Prisons; Mr. Marshall, a visiting magistrate of Coldbath-fields Prison; and Mr. William Tallack, secretary of the Howard Association) to assist in the preliminary arrangements for the congress. A larger committee will be shortly appointed, with auxiliaries, in other countries. Amongst the distinguished Americans who intend to be present at the congress is ex-Governor Seymour, who competed with Goneral Grant in the last Presidential campaign.

Gleanings.

Wyss, the author of the "Swiss Family Robinson," died recently at an advanced age.

A speaker at a recent public meeting concluded his appeal by the remarkable warning—"Remember, the eyes of the *vox populi* are upon you."

An ingenious Western clergyman recently preached a begging sermon from the appropriate text, "Sit down quickly, and write fifty."

The chaplain of the Iowa State Prison was asked by a friend how his parishioners were. "All under conviction," was the reply.

The last roses of summer were exhibited at the Crystal Palace on Saturday last in great brilliancy and variety.

"My dear doctor," said a lady, "I suffer a great deal with my eyes." "Be patient, madame," he replied; "you would probably suffer a great deal more without them."

The severest thing said against Eve's daughters was by Lady Mary Wortley Montague: "The only satisfaction I have in being a woman, is that I shall not be compelled to marry one of my own sex."

Mrs. Julia Ward Howe has been nominated for Governor of Massachusetts.—A San Francisco paper mentions the arrival in that city of "Col. Susan B. Anthony."

A New Orleans thief lately returned some abstracted clothing that proved too small, and wrote to the owner that he would wait for him to grow.

"The fact is," said an elderly wife, "a man does not know how to straighten up things. I don't wonder," she remarked in conclusion, "that after God made Adam, He went to work and made a woman to tell him what to do."

A Heartless Sheriff.—The female teacher in a West Highland district was found guilty, before Sheriff Andrew Frazer, at Fort William, on Tuesday, of having filled up a false return in the age column of her census schedule, and was fined 20s. The age returned in the schedule was twenty-nine years, while the registrar's certificate proved that the lady has seen forty-four.

Something like a Title.—The Emperor of China has just conferred upon Sir Jung Bahadoor the following title:—"The highly-honoured (the most noble) Commander and Controller of Military Affairs, the Augmentator and Instructor (disciplinarian) of the Army and Aggrandiser of the Country, the Satisfier of the Law, and High, by increasing the prosperity and revenue of the country, the Great Inheritor of Fidelity and Faithfulness to the Salt."

Modesty.—A Scotch witness in the House of Lords gave recently in rather dictatorial style his notions as to the failings in the character of Irishmen and Englishmen. He was allowed to say his say, and when out of breath, Lord Lucan asked him to oblige the committee with his ideas relative to Scotch character. "Aweel, my laird, they're jist on the contrary, unco modest and——" The rest of the sentence was drowned in uproarious merriment.

Queer Consolation.—A country deacon was called in by a coloured family to make a few remarks at the funeral of their son, in the absence of the only clergyman in the place. The weeping friends were seated about the room, when he arose and said: "It's pretty bad; but if I was you, I wouldn't take on so. It's all for the best. S'pose he'd lived and growed up to be a fat, healthy boy—why, he'd never be nothin' but a nigger, anyhow!" This may be described as first-class consolation.—*American Paper.*

The Decline of the Drama.—The Tichborne case has entered another phase of its existence. It has been placed upon the stage by a Liverpool manager, under the title of "Robert Richborne; or, the Disputed Title." To judge from the programme in the bills, of which the following is a copy, the drama may fittingly rank among that peculiarly large collection of dramatic abortions which are designated as "carpentry work":—"Act 1: England. Grand Sensation Scene. The Old Mill, and Bursting of the Dam.—Act 2: The Wreck of the Bella, and Sinking of the Vessel.—Act 3: Australia. The Burning of the Bush.—Act 4: The Great Trial; terminating with a series of Beautiful Dissolving Views, illustrating the Departure from the Court, Passing the Marble Arch, and the Installation of the Rightful Heir in the Home of his Childhood.

Eccentricity in Selecting Texts.—A certain preacher, who affected oddity, having become a candidate for some lectureship, and being required to preach a sermon to prove his fitness for the office, took for his text the word "*But.*" He thence drew the doctrine that no lot is without its trial or cross. Naaman was a mighty man, *but* he was a leper. The cities of the plain were as fruitful as the garden of the Lord, *but* the men of Sodom were sinners before the Lord exceedingly. The inhabitants of Ai thought they had put the Israelites to flight, *but* they wist not that an ambuscade was laid for them, &c., &c. When the divine came down from the pulpit, flushed very likely with anticipations of success, he was met with the appropriate observation, "Sir, it was a most ingenious sermon, *but* you are not the lecturer that will do for us."

The Late Dean Mansel as a Humorist.—When, some years since, the question arose at Oxford of altering the fees for *ad eundem* degrees from Trinity College, Dublin, Dr. Mansel settled the question by the following neat epigram:—

When Alma Mater her kind heart enlarges,
Charges her graduates, graduates her charges,
What safer rule can guide the accountant's pen,
Than that of doubling fees to Dublin men?

And when on one occasion a country parson came up to take out the degree of D.D. by the process known as that of accumulation, where the M.A., to obtain a higher degree at once, writes a double essay, Mansel wrote—

When Rusticus, from Watercrease,
Comes to Oxford with his thesis,
Is it safe to give the hood away
When an ASS writes a SSA?

Casting out Devils.—A Methodist preacher, of a large, muscular frame and a huge hand, with a powerful grip, some time ago was holding a meeting, at which quite an interest was awakened. A number of persons had come to the anxious seat, and some had been converted. A group, consisting of two or three young men and as many young ladies, were present, whose object in coming was to have merriment. The minister kindly requested them to observe decorum befitting the place. One of them ventured in rather an ungracious manner to reply that they had "understood that miracles were worked there, and they had come to see some performed." Upon this, our robust friend the minister coolly took the young man by the coat-collar, deliberately led him down the aisle, and opening the door, without ceremony landed him outside, quietly remarking: "We do not work miracles here, but we cast out devils!"—*Christian Union.*

Amusing Story of a Countess.—The *Court Circular* relates the following anecdote respecting a noble lady, who "is young, beautiful, and good";—During the Army Bill debate her noble husband, who is as proud and fond of her as he should be, was just about to rise and deliver a violent attack upon something or somebody, when a telegram was put into his hands. He read it, turned pale, and quitted the House; called a cab, drove to the Charing-cross Station, and went to Dover, and was no more heard of until the next day, when he returned to his own home, and to his first inquiry was told the Countess was in her own room. He hastened to her, and a terrific row ensued, the exact words of which no one knows but themselves. At last, however, he burst out, "Then, what did you mean by your telegram?" "Mean! what I said, of course. What are you talking about?" "Read it for yourself," returned the still unappeased husband. She did read:—"I flee with Mr. —— to Dover straight. Pray for me." For a moment she was startled, but then burst into a hearty fit of laughter. "Those dreadful telegraph people! No wonder you are out of your mind. I telegraphed simply, 'I tea with Mrs. —— in Dover-street. Stay for me.'" His lordship was so savage at the laugh he had raised against himself, that he was at first inclined to make a Parliamentary question of it, but listening to more judicious advice refrained.

NOTICE.—*All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

EVANS.—On July 23, at Islington, the wife of the Rev. C. J. Evans, late of Gawler, South Australia, of a son.

THEOBALD.—On 6th inst., the wife of R. M. Theobald, Esq., M.A., of Lee, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

DAVIES—WALLIS.—On August 1, at Merton Congregational Chapel, by the Rev. R. D. Wilson, assisted by the Rev. I. Jacob, the Rev. Robert Davies, to Hannah Emily, daughter of the late John Wallis, Esq.

DOWNING—NEWNS.—On July 26, at Craven Chapel, Regent-street, by the Rev. R. D. Wilson, assisted by the Rev. E. Dothie, B.A., of Lancaster, Frederick, second son of Mr. John Downing, of Peckham, to Maria, eldest daughter of Mr. Robert Newns, of 46, Piccadilly.

BENDALL—BARON.—On August 1, at Abney Chapel, Stoke Newington, by the Rev. W. Spensley, assisted by the Rev. B. O. Bendall, brother of the bridegroom, Frederick Bendall, Esq., late of Arundel, to Sophia Sarah Baron, eldest daughter of F. B. Baron, Esq., of 37, Clissold-road, Stoke Newington.

HOLBORN—STOUGHTON.—On August 2, at Kensington Chapel, by the Rev. J. C. Harrison, the Rev. Alfred Holborn, M.A., of Huyton, near Liverpool, to Mary Jane, daughter of the Rev. John Stoughton, D.D., of Fairlawn House, Hammersmith. No cards.

CRAIG—MACINTYRE.—On August 1, at the Congregational Chapel, Burslem, by the Rev. John Fernie, John Craig, of Shelton House, Stoke-upon-Trent, eldest son of Robert Craig, Esq., of Cramlington, Northumberland, to Ellen Agnes, youngest and only surviving daughter of the late James Macintyre, Esq., of Burslem.

DEATH.

WAUGH.—On August 6, Edith, third child of Rev. Benjamin Waugh, Blackheath.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Aug. 2.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£40,536,410	Government Debt.	£11,015,100
		Other Securities	3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	25,536,410
		Silver Bullion	
	£40,536,410		£40,536,410

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Propr'tor's Capit'l	£14,553,000	Government Securities, (inc. dead weight annuity).	£14,669,090
Rest..... ..	3,366,880		
Public Deposits ..	4,731,757	Other Securities ..	17,521,536
Other Deposits ..	24,411,661	Notes	14,812,180
Seven Day and other Bills	616,236	Gold & Silver Coin	676,728
	£47,679,534		£47,679,534

Aug. 3, 1871. GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast-tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—Civil Service Gazette. Made simply with Boiling Water or Milk. Each packet is labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Also, makers of Epps's Cacaoine, a very thin beverage for evening use.

HOW TO DYE—Silk, Wool, Feathers, Ribbons, &c., in ten minutes, without soiling the hands. Use Judson's Simple Dyes, eighteen colours, 6d. each, with full instructions supplied. Of all chemists. The *Family Herald*, 3rd September, says, "A very slight acquaintance with Judson's dyes will render their application clear to all."

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—COUNSEL AND COMFORT.—A disordered stomach throws the whole system out of gear, and renders us unfitted both for work and amusement. A few doses of these strengthening and purifying Pills taken according to the accompanying directions will, however, speedily restore order, and re-enable the stomach to digest its food without difficulty. These excellent Pills are suitable alike for the peer as the peasant, the soldier and the sailor, and particularly for home and foreign colonists. Holloway's Pills are very useful in checking feverish attacks, bilious complaints, and inflammations. They have also made the most signal cures in cases of dropsy, and diseases of the kidneys, heart, and lungs, when the sufferers seemed past the aid of medicine.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Friday, Aug. 4.

The supply of English wheat was again very small, but we receive heavy arrivals from abroad. The attendance was small, and we had a steady trade at Monday's prices for both English and foreign wheat. Flour was fully as dear. Peas, beans and barley were unchanged in value. Indian corn, being in large supply, was the turn lower. In oats a fair extent of business was done, and, notwithstanding the large imports, the prices of Monday were maintained. At the ports of call fresh arrivals are reported. Quotations for cargoes remain the same as last week.

CURRENT PRICES.

	Per Qr. s.	s.		Per Qr. s.	s.
WHEAT—			PEAS—		
Essex and Kent, red..	—	to —	Grey	37	to 40
Ditto new.. ..	51	to 56	Maple	43	46
White	—	—	White	38	42
„ new ..	56	60	Boilers	38	42
Foreign red ..	53	55	Foreign	37	40
„ white ..	56	59			
			RYE	36	38
BARLEY—					
English malting	31	34	OATS—		
Chevalier.. ..	36	42	English Feed ..	23	26
Distilling.. ..	35	39	„ potato..	27	32
Foreign	34	37	Scotch feed ..	—	—
			„ potato..	—	—
MALT—			Irish Black ..	19	21
Pale..	—	—	„ White ..	21	24
Chevalier.. ..	—	—	Foreign feed ..	17	21
Brown	49	55			
			FLOUR—		
BEANS—			Town made ..	47	50
Ticks	37	38	Best country households ..	39	42
Harrow	39	43	Norfolk & Suffolk	37	38
Small	—	—			
Egyptian.. ..	33	34			

BREAD, Saturday, Aug. 5.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheaten Bread, per 4 lbs. loaf, 7½d. to 8d.; Household Bread, 6½d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Aug. 7.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 21,993 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 9,884; in 1869, 11,142; in 1868, 10,862; and in 1867, 8,174 head. In the cattle trade to-day there has been less animation. The supply of English beasts has been good, and there have been liberal receipts from abroad, including about 1,600 from Tonning, 700 from Germany, and 100 from Spain. English stock has come slowly to hand. The demand has been inactive. Prime qualities have been scarce, and have realised 6s. per 8 lbs.; but other sorts have been difficult of disposal. The top price for the best stock has been i6s. per 8lbs. From Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire we received about 1,400 shorthorns, &c.; from other parts of England about 250 various breeds; and from from Ireland about 120 oxen. Sheep have come freely to hand. Sales have progressed slowly, but prices have been maintained. The best Downs and half-breds have realised 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d. per 8lbs. Lambs have sold quietly at from 6s. 6d. to 8s. per 8lbs. There has been a good show of Dutch calves, but not many English. The inquiry has been limited at late quotations. Pigs have met a slow sale.

Per 8lbs., to sink the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	4	0	to 5	0	Pr. coarse wooled	6	2	6	6
Second quality .	5	2	5	6	PrimeSouthdown	6	8	6	10
Prime large oxen	5	6	5	8	Lge. coarse calves	3	8	4	6
Prime Scots . .	5	10	6	0	Prime small .	5	0	5	8
Coarse inf. sheep	4	4	4	10	Large hogs . .	3	6	4	0
Second quality .	4	10	5	8	Neat sm. porkers	4	0	4	8

Lamb, 7s. 0d. to 8s. 0d., and Quarter old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Aug. 7.—The supply has been limited, but the trade has been quiet on former terms.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef .	3	4	to 3	8	Middling do. .	4	8	to 5	0
Middling do. .	3	10	4	4	Prime do. . .	5	4	5	8
Prime large do.	4	8	5	2	Large pork .	3	4	4	4
Prime small do.	5	0	5	4	Small do. . .	4	6	5	0
Veal	4	8	5	4	Lamb	6	0	6	8
Inferior Mutton	3	8	4	2					

PROVISIONS, Monday, Aug. 7.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 636 firkins butter and 3,640 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 26,329 packages butter, and 1,847 bales bacon. For Irish butter there has been a little more inquiry. Finest Clonmels sold at 116s. on board, and some shippers are asking more mone. A few third Corks sold at 108s. to 109s. landed. Foreign has not sold so freely, except the finest brands of Normandies. Best Dutch declined to 118s. to 120s. The bacon market continues very firm, and prices advanced 2s. per cwt. Best Waterford sizeable sold at 80s., and stout weights 78s. on board. Hamburg bacon advanced to 71s. landed.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Friday, Aug. 4.—The markets have been generally well attended during the past week, and supplies have been fairly kept up, prices remaining nearly stationary. Another large cargo of West India pines has passed under the hammer this week, realising rather more money. The potatoe trade is very he y, a likely to be so for the next month, the disease having shown itself in Lincolnshire as well as in the west of England.

HOPS.—BOROUGH, Monday, Aug. 7.—Our market has been fully sustained during the past week by a steady demand for every class of hops, and our currency has been well maintained for medium, while finer qualities have slightly improved in value. Improvement in the plantations is reported in parts of the Weald of Kent and Sussex; but many of the Mid and East Kent districts are said, on the other hand, to be worse. Whether the reported improvement will make any material difference in the yield depends entirely upon the weather of the next three or four weeks; at present the improvement is not sufficient to increase the present eetimate of one quarter of last year's growth. Continental advices state the crop prospects to be worse, with the exception of Bavaria. Mid and East Kents, 3*l*., 4*l*. 4s., to 7*l*. 7s.; Weald of Kent, 3*l*., 4*l*., to 5*l*. 5s.; Sussex, 3*l*., 3*l*. 10s., to 5*l*.; Farnham and country, 4*l*., 10s., 5*l*. 5s., to 6*l*.; Olds, 1*l*., 1*l*. 5s., to 1*l*. 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Aug. 7.—These markets have been well supplied with potatoes. The trade has been quiet at our quotations. English Shaws 35s. to 45s. per ton; Regents, 50s. to 70s. per ton; Kidneys, 60s. to 80s. per ton.

SEED, Friday, Aug. 4.—Nothing is passing worthy of notice in cloverseed to alter its value. Trefoil was held with much firmness, and fine samples sold for rather more money. New trefolium was offered freely, and lower prices were accepted; these ranged to-day at from 36s. to 40s. per cwt. New rapeseed was taken off in small lots for sowing, at 80s. per qr. for the best dry qualities. There was very little English canary-seed offering, and prices of all sorts were rather higher. Fine white mustardseed was quite as high, but only bought in small parcels for sowing. Scarcely any brown samples were offering.

WOOL, Monday, Aug. 7.—The tone of the wool market has continued firm. In all descriptions a healthy business has been transacted, and full quotations have been realised.

OIL, Monday, Aug. 7.—Linseed and rape have been dull and rather lower. Olive oil firm. Cocoa-nut oil steady. Palm oil quiet.

COAL, Friday, Aug. 4.—Market steady, at quoted rates. Gosforth, 16s. 3d.; Hettons, 16s. 8d.; Hettons Lyons, 16s. 3d.; Hartlepool (original) 18s. 6d.; Hartlepool, 17s.; Heugh Hall, 17s.; Kelloe, South, 17s.; Holywell Main, 18s.; Tees, 18s. 3d.; Thornlington, 16s. 9d. Ships fresh arrived, 22, ships left from last day, 5—total, 27. Ships at sea, 15.

Advertisements.

OLD COINS FOR SALE.—Gold, Silver, Copper, Saxon, English, Roman, Greek, &c. Lists free. J. Verity, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury.

THE HARTLEY INSTITUTION, SOUTHAMPTON.

NEXT TERM commences SEPT. 18.

Three Exhibitions, giving Free Education, and tenable in the Departments of General Literature and Science, of Preliminary Medical Education, or of Engineering and Technical Science, will be open to New Students. Special preparation for the Indian Engineering, Forest, and Telegraph Examinations, and for University of London degrees.

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For Prospectuses and further information apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

The MICHAELMAS TERM will commence on THURSDAY, the 14th September.

MRS. BAYNES and her Sisters, the Misses BEARD, late of Denmark Hill, are now residing in a larger House in the favourite suburb of Hampstead.

PUPILS REASSEMBLE on SEPTEMBER 7TH.

MOUNT VIEW, GREEN HILL, HAMPSTEAD.

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Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination Papers, on application.

AUTUMN TERM will COMMENCE THURSDAY, Sept. 21.

HIGHBURY HOUSE SCHOOL, St. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.

Upper, Middle, and Preparatory Departments.

Classics, Mathematics, Modern Languages, and thorough English.

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The comfort and health of delicate boys especially studied.

A liberal table and watchful care.

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School duties will be resumed August 3.

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The above School receives, in addition to the Sons of Ministers, a limited number of the Sons of Laymen, who are carefully instructed in all the branches of a Sound Classical, Mathematical, and Commercial Education, and are prepared for any department of business, or for entrance at the Universities.

The School will REOPEN, after the Midsummer Vacation, on FRIDAY, 4th of August, 1871.

Application for the admission of Pupils to be addressed to the Principal.

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ESTABLISHMENT FOR YOUNG LADIES, Conducted Mrs. WASHINGTON WILKS. The course of instruction embraces the usual branches of a thorough English education, with the French and German Languages; also Piano, Singing, and Drawing taught by competent Masters.

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The SESSION 1871-72 will BEGIN on MONDAY, September 11th. The First Class is reading for the Matriculation Examination of the University of London; the Second, for the Senior; the Third, for the Junior Local Examination of the University of Cambridge. Pupils have passed in Honours each of these Examinations. Special attention is given to Practical Chemistry and to Moral and Physical Training.

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Miss DIXIE, in succeeding her Aunt, Miss Fletcher, as Principal of this Establishment, BEGS TO INFORM her Friends that her PUPILS will ASSEMBLE on TUESDAY, August 29th.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC. — Professor Pepper's "Trip to the Western Highlands of Ireland": grand Scenery and Irish Songs by Miss Barth. —Engagement of George Buckland, Esq., and Great Revival of Henry Russell's Songs, under his personal kind superintendence, with grand Scenic and Optical Effects.—"PARIS, as it Was and Is": illustrated with a beautiful series of Pictures of the Public Buildings and Streets; by J. L King, Esq.—Re-engagement of E. D. Davies, the Premier Ventriloquist.—The Ghost and other entertainments as usual. — Admission, One Shilling. Open from 12 to 5 and 7 to 10.

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FREE POLICIES for equitable amounts, with participation in future profits, without further payment, will be granted to members who, after three years, are unable to continue their premiums; or, if preferred, the cash value will be paid on surrender of the policy.

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The last Report and Balance Sheet can be obtained on application to any of the Agents of the Company, or to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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Paid-up Capital £1,000,000. Reserved Fund £500,000

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CHIEF ACCOUNTANT—James Gray, Esq.
SECRETARY—F. Clappison, Esq.
HEAD OFFICE—21, Lombard-street.
MANAGER—Whitbread Tomson, Esq.
ASSISTANT-MANAGER—William Howard, Esq.

At the HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Proprietors, held on THURSDAY, the 3rd August, 1871, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street Station,

The following Report for the half-year ending the 30th June, 1871, was read by the Secretary.

WILLIAM CHAMPION JONES, Esq., in the chair.

The Directors, in presenting to the Proprietors the balance-sheet of the Bank for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, have the satisfaction to report that, after paying interest to customers and all charges, allowing for rebate and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits amount to £90,100 16s. 8d. This sum, added to £4,349 0s. 8d. brought forward from the last account, produces a total of £94,449 17s. 4d.

They have declared the usual dividend of six per cent., with a bonus of three per cent., for the half-year free of income-tax, being at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum, which which will absorb £90,000 and leave £4,449 17s. 4d. to be carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account.

They have to announce the retirement of their esteemed colleague, John William Burmester, Esq., from the Direction, on account of advanced age, and the election of Frederick Youle. Esq., in his stead.

The dividend and bonus, together £1 16s. per share, free of income-tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the branches, on or after Monday, the 14th inst.

BALANCE-SHEET of the London and County Banking Company, 30th June, 1871.

Dr.					
To capital paid up				£1,000,000	0 0
To reserve fund				500,000	0 0
To amount due by the Bank for customers' balances, &c.	£14,505,287	15	2		
To liabilities on acceptances, covered by securities	2,640,138	5	9		
				17,145,426	0 11
To profit and loss balance brought from last account	4,349	0	8		
To gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, viz.	251,931	6	2		
				256,280	6 10
				£18,901,706	7 9
Cr.					
By cash on hand at head office and branches, and with Bank of England	£2,130,797	4	3		
By cash placed at call and at notice, covered by securities	2,131,464	11	0		
				£4,262,261	15 3
Investments, viz:					
By Government and guaranteed stocks	1,400,764	15	9		
By other stocks and securities	145,102	7	6		
				1,545,867	3 3
By discounted bills, and advances to customers in town and country	10,061,582	2	2		
By liabilities of customers for drafts accepted by the Bank (as per contra)	2,640,138	5	9		
				12,701,720	7 11
By Freehold premises in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, freehold and leasehold property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings				245,735	9 10
By interest paid to customers				38,220	6 3
By salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income-tax on profits and salaries				107,901	5 3
				£18,901,706	7 9

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.			
To interest paid to customers as above	£38,220	6	3
To expenses, as above	107,901	5	3
To rebate on bills not due, carried to new account	15,708	18	0
To dividend of 6 per cent, for half-year	60,000	0	0
To bonus of 3 per cent.	30,000	0	0
To balance carried forward	4,449	17	4
	£256,280	6	10
Cr.			
By balance brought forward from last account	£4,349	0	8
By gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	251,931	6	2
	£256,280	6	10

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) WM. JARDINE, WILLIAM NORMAN, RICHARD H. SWAINE, } Auditors.

London and County Bank, July 27, 1871.

The foregoing Report having been read by the Secretary, the following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. "That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the shareholders."

2. "That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company."

(Signed) W. CHAMPION JONES, Chairman.

The Chairman having quitted the chair, it was resolved, and carried unanimously:

3. "That the cordial thanks of this meeting be presented to William Champion Jones, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the chair."

(Signed) P. P. BLYTH, Deputy-Chairman.

(Extracted from the minutes.)

(Signed) F. CLAPPISON, Secretary.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a DIVIDEND on the Capital of the Company, at the rate of 6 per cent. for the half-year ending 30th June, 1871, with a bonus of 3 per cent., will be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branch Banks, on or after MONDAY, the 14th instant.—By order of the Board,

W. McKEWAN, General Manager.

21, Lombard-street, August 4, 1871.

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COALS.—LEA and CO.'S PRICES.—Hetton or Lambton Wall's-end, by screw steamers and railway, 23s.; Hartlepool, 22s. best Wigan, 20s.; best Silkstone, 20s.; new Silkstone, 19s.; Clay-cross, 20s. and 17s.; Primrose, 19s.; Barnsley, 17s; best Derby, 17s.; Kitchen, 16s; Cobbles, 15s.; Hartley, 16s.; Nuts, 14s.; Tanfield Moor, 19s.; small, 11s. Coke, 14s. per 12 sacks. Net cash. Delivered thoroughly screened. Depôts, Highbury and Highgate, N.; Kingsland, E.; Beauvoir Wharf, Kingsland-road; Great Northern Railway Stations, King's-cross and Holloway; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park-basin. No Agents.

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ELLIS'S RUTHIN WATERS,

Soda, Potass, Seltzer, Lemonade, Lithia, and for GOUT, Lithia & Potass.

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CORNS and BUNIONS.—A gentleman, many years tormented with Corns, will be happy to afford others the information by which he obtained their complete removal in a short period, without pain or any inconvenience.—Forward address, on a stamped envelope, to F. Kingston, Esq., Church-street, Ware, Herts.

A FACT. — ALEX. ROSS'S HAIR-COLOUR WASH will in two days cause grey hair or whiskers to become their original colour. This is guaranteed by Alex. Ross. It is merely necessary to damp the hair with it. Price 10s. 6d.; sent for stamps.—248, High Holborn, London.

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ALEX. ROSS'S HAIR CURLING FLUID.—It curls immediately straight and ungovernable Hair. It is of no consequence how straight or ungovernable the hair is when it is used. Sold at 3s. 6d.; sent for 54 stamps.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.—The best, safest, and most certain Family Medicine that has yet been discovered. Being composed of nothing but the purest vegetable ingredients, they are suitable for either sex. They are equally valuable for curing and preventing disease. Sold by all Chemists and other Dealers in Patent Medicines, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

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LAUGHING GAS ADMINISTERED DAILY.

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